EARTH FIRST!

SAMHAIN EDITION

November 1, 1986 Vol. VII, No. I

THE *RADICAL* ENVIRONMENTAL JOURNAL TWO DOLLARS

World Bank Protested

by Ron Huber

Editor's note: On September 30, demonstrations against the World Bank and its associated banks were held in sixty locations in the United States as well as in a number of other countries. In our Yule issue we will present a complete report of those demonstrations and a photo display of as many as possible (if you participated in the demonstrations please be sure to send us a photo — black & white or color print, or color slide — of your demonstration by December 1). The following article by Ron Huber describes the demonstration in Washington, DC, outside the World Bank headquarters.

Ten thousand finance ministers, bankers and associates flew into Washington, DC, on September 29 for the 41st annual IMF/World Bank meeting. Limousines choked 19th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue as they dropped the moneymen off at the World Bank Headquarters.

As the "dignitaries" clambered out of their cars, amid beefy feds and bodyguards, they were greeted by a giant banner emblazoned with a prowling jungle cat and the statement, "WORLD BANK DESTROYS TROPICAL RAINFORESTS," along with the name of the coalition: Rainforest Action Network. Outwitting the security forces anxiously patrolling the area (finance ministers are not the most beloved citizens of many nations), two activists climbed the fire escape of an adjoining building, raced across the rooftops and rappelled down the monolith to suspend the banner. Traffic jammed and crowds stared up at the banner and over at the Bank. The bankers knew they were being watched.

After the opening meeting, bankers fanned out across the city in search of the dozens of parties held in their honor. And at their expense: the costs of the meals and parties have been estimated at 10 million dollars. *The Washington Post* acidly noted, "The bankers may be here to borrow money to feed the starving back home, but while they're in Washington, none will go hungry . . . they're spending their money on Victorian feasts lavish enough to surfeit the greediest gourmand."

While the delegates belched their way from feast to feast, two groups of folks concerned about World Bank-financed rainforest destruction were meeting and issuing warnings about the consequences of World Bank projects.

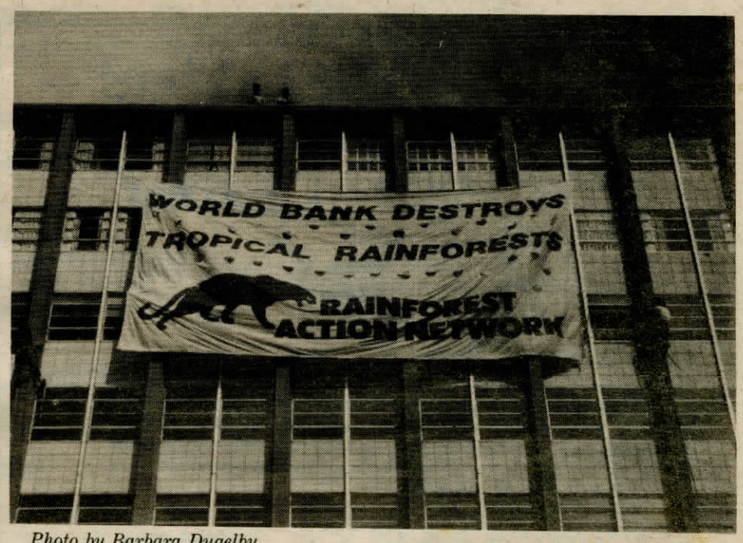

Photo by Barbara Dugelby.

The National Forum on Biodiversity (see Reed's article) said that with 29,500 square miles of tropical forest cut down annually (an area larger than Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont and Rhode Island combined), whole ecosystems vital to the maintenance of atmospheric, land and water quality are vanishing. Apologetic to '70s environmentalists, whose warnings about mass extinction were dismissed by "mainstream" scientists as extremist, the Forum called the extinction crisis "a threat to civilization second only to the threat of thermonuclear war."

Mark Plotkin, an ethnobotanist with the World Wildlife Fund, pointed out that with 17,500 species of plants, animals and fungi exterminated annually, along with native societies that have coexisted with them for millenia, organisms useful medically, agriculturally, and industrially are vanishing . . . along with the cultures that know how to use them. "Each time an Amazon medicine man dies, it's as if a library burns down."

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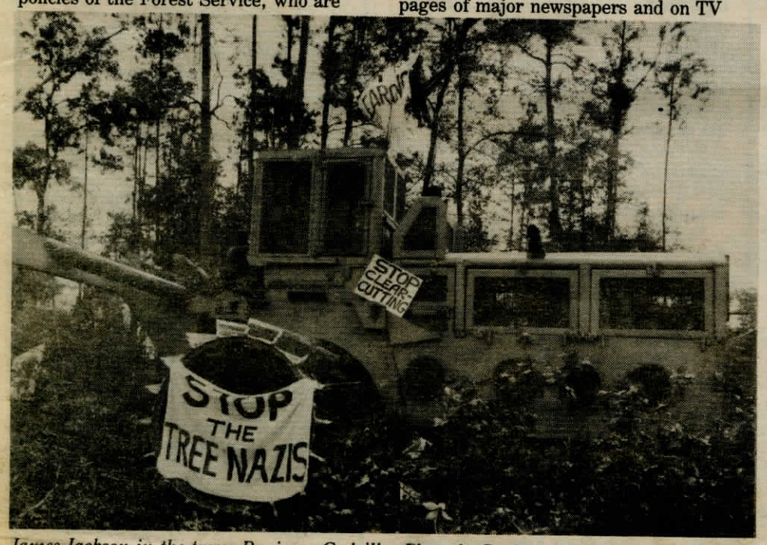
Texas EF! Fights Freddie Godzilla

Six Arrested in Dramatic Confrontation with Giant Tree Crusher

by Leon Czolgosz

Just as we were going to press with this issue we received word of an immensely successful action by Texas Earth First! in the Four Notch area of the Sam Houston National Forest near Huntsville. The action was undertaken to dramatize and publicize the insane policies of the Forest Service, who are in the process of pulverizing 2600 acres of the Four Notch, an area of great biological diversity once recommended for Wilderness. The Freddies have been using a monstrous, 52-ton tree crusher (dubbed "Godzilla" by EF!ers) to flatten the forest, and plan to follow up this destruction by burning the residue with a napalm-like substance broadcast from helicopters. The Freddies justify their obscenity with the lame excuse that the area is infested with the Southern Pine Beetle. Their intention to subsequently replant the area as a biologically sterile "pine plantation," shows what their real motivation is — to pander to the heavily subsidized timber industry.

In their dramatic action on Oct. 21, Texas EF!ers brought Godzilla to a halt for over 24 hours, and tarnished the name of the Forest Service on the front pages of major newspapers and on TV screens across Texas. Bugis Cargis, of EF! Austin, leapt upon Godzilla and chained himself by the neck to the front of the steel monster with a superstrength motorcycle lock. To the Freddies' chagrin, their bolt-cutters failed to free Bugis, and he spent over 24 hours atop the giant tree-crusher (which was draped with banners sporting slogans such as "Stop the Tree Nazis" and "No Vietnam in East Texas") until a locksmith, using a drill, was able to open the lock. In the meantime, several other EF!ers chained themselves to trees, and James Jackson, of Cleveland, TX, climbed into an elm tree with a banner. In a senseless rage, the Freddies began to cut down the tree with Jackson in it. Jackson leapt to another tree, then another, before the Freds brought him down with their snarling chainsaw. Jackson was slightly injured, as was one of the Freddies' own, by the falling tree.



James Jackson in the trees, Bugis on Godzilla. Photo by Barbara Dugelby.

In all, six of the EF!ers present were arrested, and (aside from Bugis, who spent the night atop Godzilla) spent the night in the Walker County Jail before being released on personal recognizance bonds. Besides Bugis and Jackson, those arrested were Patricia Ellis Taylor, Charles Taylor, Christine Stevens and Robin Spraggins. This action, which focused much media attention on Forest Service practices in East Texas, was among the most successful undertaken by Earth First!ers anywhere. If the Freddies persist (as is likely) with their demented version of "forest management," more demonstrations are likely. We will cover the Texas story in greater detail in the next issue — stay tuned!

For further information — or to make greatly needed donations — contact:

Barbara Dugelby
Texas Earth First!
PO Box 7292
Austin, TX 78713
(512) 467-1404

After this issue of *Earth First!* had already gone to the typesetter, Barbara Dugelby called us from Austin with the stunning announcement that the Forest Service had just agreed to a seven-day moratorium on crushing and burning in the Four Notch. The moratorium came in response to pressure from the Texas State EPA and the office of the Attorney General of Texas.

As a direct result of the courageous action of Texas Earth First! in exposing Forest Service practices in the Four Notch to public scrutiny, Nancy Lynch, Chief Attorney for the EPA, notified the Sam Houston National Forest of the EPA's intention to file suit to halt the crushing and burning. Shortly thereafter, Attorney General Jim Mattox suggested to the Forest Service an alternative to an immediate lawsuit; namely, that the F.S. voluntarily halt their activities while the Attorney General's office made an on-site investigation to determine if further action was warranted.

In response, Forest Supervisor Mike Lannan announced the seven-day moratorium, which is to run from Friday, October 31 to Friday, November 7. During this period a team from the EPA and Mattox's office will tour the Four Notch. The group is to be accompanied by both Forest Service officials and representatives of the Texas environmental community. We can only hope that the state officials will resist the pious blandishments of the Freddies and will listen to the voice of reason. But whatever the ultimate outcome, the moratorium is clear proof of what can be accomplished by courageous direct action, after all other means of appeal to the bureaucracy have failed.

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EARTH FIRST!

NO COMPROMISE IN THE DEFENSE OF MOTHER EARTH!

***Earth First!* Journal is published eight times a year.**
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POB 5871 * TUCSON, ARIZONA 85703 * (602)622-1371

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the editor are welcomed. Lengthy letters may be edited for space requirement. Letters should be typed or carefully printed and double-spaced, using only one side of a sheet of paper. Be sure to indicate if you want your name and location to appear or if you wish to remain anonymous. Send letters to POB 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703.

Earth First!ers,

I wish to make you aware of a threat to one of the most precious ecosystems in the US. I am a member of the North Cascades National Park trail crew as a seasonal. The park borders on the Glacier Peak Wilderness, Pasayten Wilderness, Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Wenatchee National Forest, and Okanogan National Forest. Unlike most other National Parks of its size, the visitor use is minute, especially on the southeast/Stehekin District side, making this one of the least developed parks in the Park System. Also unlike most parks, this area has a small community in the heart of it. The community, Stehekin, consists of 50-60 full-time residents plus NPS personnel and an increasing number of summer residents who buy land, build a home, and visit two weeks every year. The North Cascades NP was created in 1969 including Stehekin's land that was still in private ownership. Through the heart of the Stehekin District flows the beautiful Stehekin River, probably the last undammed wild river in the Northwest.

Currently the North Cascades National Park (NOCA) is drawing up a General Management Plan (GMP) from 5-6 proposed alternatives. The GMP will reach the public input phase in late fall or winter to create a preferred draft that will direct the future of this park.

What motivates me to seek help from Earth First! are these items: 1) I have experienced places in extreme negative transition such as Yellowstone, Yosemite, Aspen, Banff, Sedona (AZ), and other lovely places that people discover, populate, pillage, and profit from at the expense of Ma Nature. 2) Many people in Stehekin would profit if able to subdivide all the private land in this valley into lots to sell to wealthy outsiders so the "locals" here can create a profitable market for their commercial goods and services. These people want the NPS to allow (as stated in two of the proposed GMP alternatives) the development of this area to at least double the 1986 level! They also wish to halt research or proposals to bring back the Wolf and Grizzly, develop the airfield for private use (the present airfield is a grass strip for emergencies and the occasional weekender), prevent the Stehekin River from being proclaimed a Wild and Scenic River, pave the only road in the park (which is now a barely maintained gravel road used by NPS shuttles to transport visitors up and down the 30 mile stretch of valley). Currently, the only way into the Stehekin area is by a 4-5 hour boat or ferry ride from Chelan, WA, or by airplane, or by foot or horse. Stehekin rests in the part of NOCA that has unfortunately been the deemed the "Lake Chelan National Recreation Area." I don't have to describe the abuses that occur in NRAs.

This park needs somebody to fight for it before these greedy developers make it another Yellowstone. I ask you to do research on this park and advise me on how to help save it. I have tried to interest other groups, but they seem unprepared to demand the goals needed to stop the development. For example, the Sierra Club has groups visit this area each summer to explore the backcountry. Unfortunately, they do all their business (i.e. meals, accomodations, horsepacking guides) with the most guilty rapists of the wilderness. Your group has a great reputation earned the hard way. I am exposing a threat to Ma Nature; let's get together with no compromise!

—Eddy

ed. note: Letters in opposition to development in the Stehekin area and in favor of keeping all of North Cascades Park wild can be sent to: North Cascades NP, 800 State St., Sedro Woolley, WA 98284.

Dear Editor,

I am an environmental and animal rights activist, and I agree heartily with the direct action philosophy and work of Earth First! I was, however, somewhat bothered to read in a recent EF! newspaper that some cows had been shot with a bow and arrow in order to halt environmental damage caused by overgrazing.

Cows don't belong on American rangelands, and would not have come here by themselves. Spaniards and other Western Europeans brought cattle to this continent 400 years ago. The glorified cowboy tended the herd and encouraged it to grow, and today, profit-minded ranchers put cattle out on the range where they are fattened up at the expense of native vegetation and wildlife. Rich ecosystems have been turned into cow pastures and wastelands.

It is important to address the problem of overgrazing, but in doing so, we must concern ourselves with those responsible for this ecocrime. The only reason that cows are eating up the land is that people are eating up the cows. Anybody who eats beef is actually eating up western rangelands (or rainforests if that's where the cattle were fattened). If you want to stop the destruction of western rangelands, stop eating them, via the cow.

—Gene

Dear SFB,

My heart goes out to Jim Ringo (Letters, p. 2, Mabon EF!) who asks for a job not destructive to the ecology. I, too, have been through this dilemma all during my long life (I even begin to feel with Gov. Lamm that as a retiree my duty to stop being a consumer is getting in the way of my enjoyment of life).

I have always been in the entertainment business one way or another, and have made a fair living at my writing, and I used to think they were the most innocuous possible occupations. Maybe

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Please send any newspaper clippings mentioning Earth First! or dealing with subjects of interests to us at POB 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703. Clippings about monkeywrenching of any kind would also be appreciated. Thank you!

The Post Office does not forward Third Class Mail but they do charge us 30 cents apiece to to send us your change of address. Please send us your change of address promptly so you do not miss an issue of *Earth First!* and we do not have to pay the Post Office to receive it. Some people using clever aliases are not receiving their copies of *Earth First!* . Be sure to notify your postperson that "Attila the Hun" or "The Animal" receives mail at your address.

SCHEDULE

***Earth First! The Radical Environmental Journal* is published 8 times a year on the old pagan European nature holidays: Samhain (November 1), Yule (December 21 or 22), Brigid (February 2), Eostar (March 21 or 22), Beltane (May 1), Litha (June 21 or 22), Lughnasadh (August 1), and Mabon (September 21 or 22). Deadlines for articles are three weeks before the cover date: October 10, December 1, January 10, March 1, April 10, June 1, July 10, and September 1. The newspaper is mailed Third Class on the cover date. First Class delivery is available for $10 extra a year. Airmail delivery overseas is available for $20 a year extra.**

USUAL DISGUSTING PLEA FOR MONEY

The Earth First! movement runs on your financial support. We don't need as much as other groups since we are grassroots, volunteer, decentralized and have low overhead. Moreover, you get to select where your hard-earned money goes. Don't send your contributions to this newspaper, send it directly to one of these hard working groups:

***Earth First! Foundation, POB 50681, Tucson, AZ 85703**
(contributions to the Foundation are tax-deductible)
***Nomadic Action Group (Mike Roselle), POB 83, Canyon, CA 94516**
***Colorado Earth First!, POB 1166, Boulder, CO 80306**
***Arizona Earth First!, POB 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703**
***Montana Earth First!, Rt. 1, Box 44K, St. Ignatius, MT 59865**
***Texas Earth First!, POB 7292, University Station, Austin, TX 78713**
***Oregon Earth First!, POB 605, Joseph, OR 97846**
***EF! Grizzly Bear Task Force, POB 7572, Missoula, MT 59807**
***Bay Area Earth First!, POB 83, Canyon, CA 94516**
***Washington Earth First!, POB 95316, Seattle, WA 98145**

This fundraising appeal is placed as a service to the Earth First! movement.
THANK YOU for your support!

EARTH FIRST!
Samhain Edition
November 1, 1986
Vol. VII, No. I

Earth First! The Radical Environmental Journal is published by Ned Ludd Publications and is an independent newspaper within the broad Earth First! movement. It is not the "official newsletter" of the Earth First! movement. Entire contents are copyrighted 1986, but we are pleased to allow reprinting if credit is given, except for those articles specifically copyrighted by the author. Art and photographs are copyrighted by the individual artist or photographer and permission to use must be received from them. *Earth First!* is a forum for the no-compromise environmental movement. Responsibility rests with the individual authors and correspondents. The contents do not necessarily represent the viewpoint of this newspaper, the Earth First! movement, local Earth First! groups or individual Earth First!ers.

Although we do not accept the authority of the hierarchical state, nothing herein is intended to run us afoul of its police power. *Agents provocateurs* will be dealt with by the Grizzly Defense League on the Mirror Plateau.

Contributions are welcomed and should be typed or carefully printed, *double spaced*, and sent with an SASE *if return is requested. Art or photo*graphs (black & white prints preferred, color prints or slides OK) are desirable to illustrate articles and essays. They will be returned if requested. Due to our tight budget, no payment is offered except for extra copies of the issue.

All material should be sent to Earth First!, POB 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703, except for poetry which should go to Art Goodtimes, Box 1008, Telluride, CO 81435.

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John Davis, Managing Editor
Leon Colgosz, Associate Editor
Dixie Dalton, Merchandise Manager
Roger Featherstone, Special Projects
Mike Roselle, Roving Editor
David Cross, Roving Editor
Art Goodtimes, Poetry Editor

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Contributing Artists: Canyon Frog, Helen Wilson, Jim Stiles, John Zaelit, Karen Tanner, Mike Roselle, B. von Alten, T.O. Hellenbach, Lone Wolf Circles, Mad Jack, Bill Turk, Mike Gouse, Millipede, Juniper Berry, Christoph Manes, Marcy Willow, Peg Millett.

Contributing Photographers: David Cross, George Wuerthner, Howie Wolke, Ed Berger, Doug Peacock, Scott Smith, Roger Featherstone.

Mailing: Tucson Earth First! Group

ADDRESSES

POB 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703 (602)622-1371: Letters to the Editor, Manuscripts, Art, Photographs, etc. for *Earth First!*; Subscriptions, Changes of Address, Inquiries; Merchandise Orders; Clippings; General Correspondence.

POB 1008, Telluride, CO 81435 (303)728-4301: Poetry, Correspondence with Art Goodtimes.

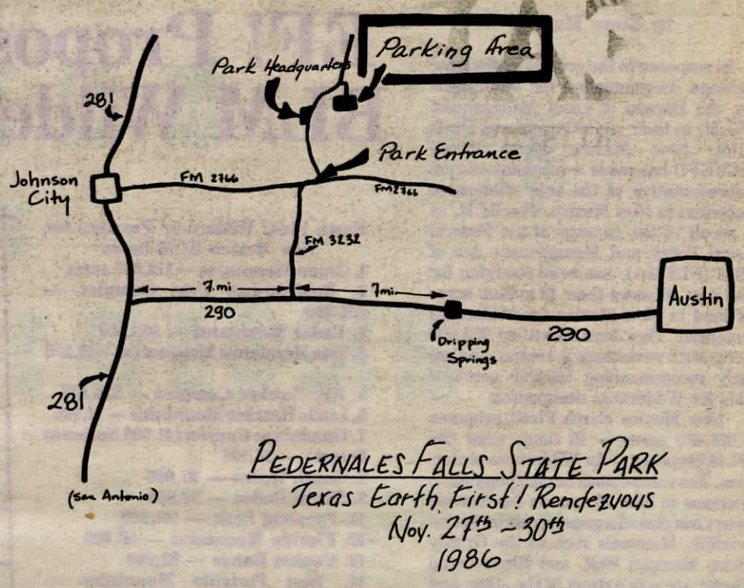
TEXAS RENDEZVOUS
November 27 - 30

Come gather 'round the coleman stove (sorry, no open fires) this November 27-30 with your fellow shit-kickin' EF!ers and hear the Hill Country echo with our beeeautiful voices (well, at least we'll have Bill Oliver!). We'll backpack 2 miles into the backwoods of the Pedernales Falls State Park, near Johnson City.

The Austin Ecoheads will be there by Thursday morning to post signs. Thursday night will include a potluck feast, followed by rounds of spirits, song & dance. Friday & Saturday will offer hikes and workshops on issues such as East Texas Wilderness, Stacy Dam, Toxic Dumping, Rainforests (tropical & temperate), Local Group Organizing, Paper Monkeywrenching, Central Texas Wilderness Proposal & more. In attendance to help with workshops will be Ned Fritz, Barbara Dugelby, George Russell, Janice Bezanson, James Jackson, Roger Featherstone . . . .

Costs for use of the park will be about 50 cents a head/night, and $2 a vehicle so carpool if you can. We've reserved places for 50 but to help us plan please drop a note to tell us if you plan to attend. Also tell us what area you can help with (childcare, trash, tarps, music, $$, suggestions for workshops).

We'll hike in, so pack light! Be prepared for any type of weather. Bring food & water for 4 days, instruments, information about issues. For more info and to tell us if you're coming, contact: Barbara Dugelby, POB 7292, UT, Austin, TX 78713; 512-467-1404.



LETTERS (cont)

so. But as a user of paper, machines, xerox, kleiglights, communications equipment, newspapers (yes, EF!ers must consider newsprint and ink) there just isn't anything that doesn't use up resources. Maybe we should just keep our jobs and donate our money to the best causes??? I dunno. . .

—Elaine Stansfield
Los Angeles

Editor,

I read with appreciation Bill McCormick's "Towards an Integrated Approach to Population and Justice" in your last issue. I'm glad for his rebuttal to the idea that the Population Bomb is a myth, as held by Frances Moore Lappe and Joseph Collins in *Food First!* . The overpopulation problem is definitely real — so real that it could render most environmental gains up to now (in areas such as wilderness and endangered species preservation) undefendable within 35 years.

However, I do not agree with McCormick's criticism of Garrett Hardin, whom I believe to be courageous and visionary, a stubborn realist still far ahead of his time.

How many people can the planet sustain? Lappe now seems to think the number is unlimited; most environmentalists, lacking hard data, shrug their shoulders. Bioregionalism holds the answer.

Inhabitants of every bioregion must, among their many reinhabitation endeavors, determine the carrying capacity of their respective bioregions. How much water and food can the bioregion produce for how many humans, in balance with the needs of the region's other organisms? Adding the carrying capacities of all the planet's bioregions should yield a maximum sustainable population size. So — while a specific number may now be lacking from the literature — the means to determine that number exists in bioregionalism.

ZPG has for a long time seemed to me to be an uninspiring, compromise-oriented, and ultimately inadequate goal. Needed is an actual *reduction* in current human numbers in a sane and orderly way. Negative Population Growth is a budding organization working toward just such a goal, to achieve equilibrium at about one-fourth of our current global population size. I am surprised I have not yet seen NPG mentioned in the pages of EF!

NPG has published an excellent booklet, *Urgently Needed Now: A National Policy to Reduce U.S. Population*, that outlines its sweeping proposals in concise and very readable terms. NPG's Advisory Board includes well-known activist/progressives such as Isaac Asimov, David Brower, and Shirley MacLaine. Copies of this booklet may be obtained by writing to: NPG, 16 E. 42nd St., Suite 1042, New York, NY 10017.

—Alamere

Dear SFB,

I just finished reading Wayland Drew's "Killing Wilderness" for the second time (*EF!*, August 1, 1986). It's a masterpiece — He's a genius. This article shouldn't be limited to people with our states of mind. It should be reproduced thousands of times and dropped out of airplanes — or something similar! Our cause may not be hopeless if we could educate larger numbers of the conditioned public with articles such as this.

— M. R. Venom

Dear skit fyrir heila,

The Sea Shepherd's hellraising in the North Atlantic (see "Occurrence in the Ferocious Isles," Mabon *EF!*) may not stop whaling overnight, but it makes the people here aware that whaling is a serious matter. To add a little balance to Captain Watson's flamboyant description of Faroese society, however, let me say that the Faroese are mostly peaceful, down-to-earth folk, who've lived pretty harmoniously with their environment for 1000 years. I like them. The cops got ugly most likely because these guys have probably never been in a fistfight — there's no crime on the Faroese Islands — and we all know that people who've never experienced violence are usually the most trigger-happy. The "materialistic" lifestyle the Captain mentions consists mostly of fishing and sheep-raising. We should all be so materialistic. (As to their ban on alcohol, I won't even attempt an *apologia*.)

Whaling is a traditional way of life for them and has been small-scale enough not to be a problem, were it not for the fact that Japan, Russia, Norway, etc., have ravaged whales over the years. That's what the Faroese (and the Icelanders) can't understand — why should they stop whaling when they were the only ones to hunt with restraint? The answer is that continued whaling, even on a small scale, threatens a beleaguered species, and therefore the well-being of whales has to come first. The Sea Shepherd's gentle art of persuasion is the best way to bring this point home. But we can still respect a fundamentally decent (and decentralized and non-industrial and rural) society when we run into it without compromising our biocentrism, or even being wimpy.

Besides whaleboat busting, Captain, consider smuggling beer into the country — they'll elect you prime minister — and bring some to Iceland, while you're at it.

— Christoph Manes
Reykjavik, Iceland

EF!ers,

The Alaska Wilderness review is now in the scoping session stage. The Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act says that the Park Service must review all existing Alaskan National Parks and determine if there is more land suitable for Wilderness designation. All Alaskan National Parks fit the Wilderness definition, so 100% of all parks should be wilderness. That was my testimony at two sessions. Unfortunately most of the attendees were anti-wilderness: "horn hunters," wolf killers, miners and the Winnebagos tribe. One point I made was the fact that these are National Parks, yet they are only touring Alaska for public comment. That should be illegal! The whole country should be consulted.

Do Alaska a favor. Write to the National Park Service and say: 1) Scoping sessions should be held throughout the US, not just in Alaska. These are National Parks, not Alaskan Parks. 2) All existing National Parks in Alaska should be designated Wilderness. 100%. Send comments to: NPS Alaskan Wilderness Review, 2525 Gambell St. Rm. 202, Anchorage, AK 99503-2392.

—Mark Shepard

Dear SFB

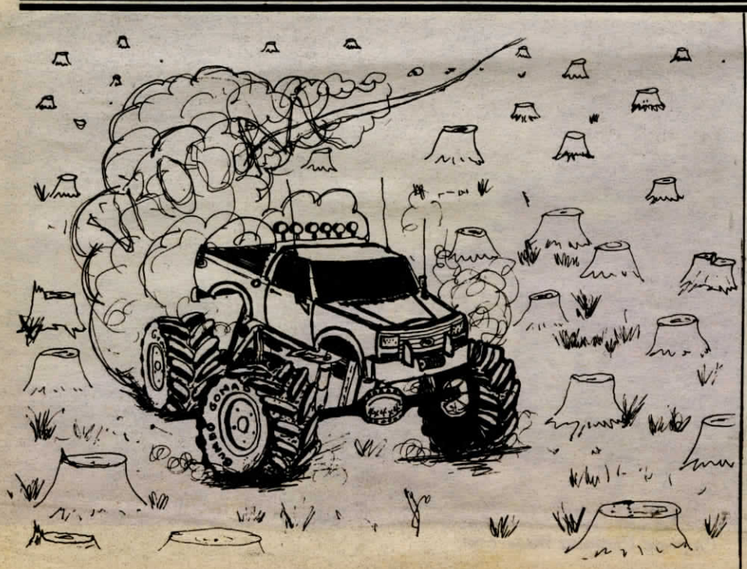
I, and other Fifth estate folks, like you, have differences with Murray Bookchin. But it's rather unjust (and not very fruitful) to dismiss him with the ad hominem argument that he should get outside more. Hell, we should all get out more, but Bookchin was writing about ecology back in the early '60s and deserves to be criticized seriously for the content of his ideas rather than dismissed for his writing style or intellectual background.

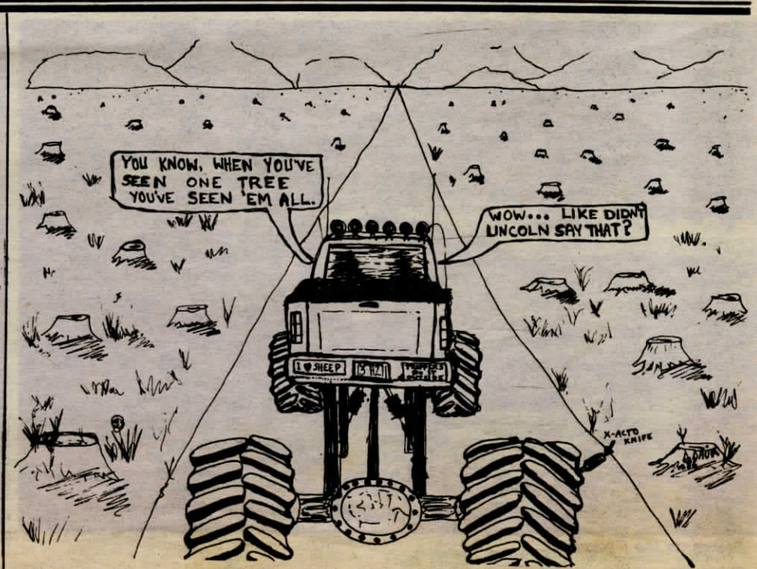
—George Bradford

Dear George

My criticism of Murray Bookchin in "Around the Campfire" ("I think Murray would do well to get out of his stuffy libraries and encounter the wilderness."), may have been off-hand but certainly not ad hominem — rather it is a fundamental critique of Bookchin and anyone else who relies excessively on scholarship instead of direct wilderness experience for wisdom. I think Bookchin is an important thinker for us, but in virtually every area where I disagree with him, his lack of direct wilderness experience is the key. I do not believe that anyone, no matter how learned or thoughtful, can fully understand human society or the relationship of humans to the natural world without regularly encountering the wilderness and finding instruction there.

—Dave Foreman





EF! Proposes 5.3 Million Acres BLM Wilderness in New Mexico

by Steve Marlatt

In response to the grossly inadequate acreage recommended for Wilderness by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in their recently released Draft EIS, New Mexico Earth First! (NMEF!) has made a recommendation representative of the true wilderness potential in New Mexico. The BLM, as a result of the passage of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA), has been studying for the past 10 years their 12 million acres of land in New Mexico for wilderness potential. They have identified 950,000 acres with wilderness potential, and are only recommending 560,000 acres of this for Wilderness designation.

New Mexico Earth First! proposes 5,321,600 acres — 10 times what the BLM proposes — for Wilderness protection. The tremendous human population increase in New Mexico in the last 100 years has placed a great strain on native wildlife. Mammals such as the Grizzly Bear, Mexican Wolf, and Black-footed Ferret are now extinct in the state, and the Mountain Lion and Desert Bighorn Sheep suffer greatly reduced ranges. Most BLM land in New Mexico is arid and cannot sustain major disturbances. Many of the BLM areas have been damaged by uranium and coal mining, oil and gas drilling, and urban development. The remaining areas must be protected from this degradation.

Examples of the differences between the NMEF! and BLM proposals include the Rio Chama area, NMEF! 39,900 — BLM 5232; the Continental Divide area, NMEF! 133,700 — BLM 40,359; and the Organ Mountains area, NMEF! 112,900 — BLM 8269. Within our proposal, there are admittedly dirt roads, abandoned mining claims, and livestock range improvements. The BLM has eliminated areas that contain such developments as being "unnatural," but this ignores the potential for reclamation of these lands. If such developments are reclaimed properly now, they will scarcely be noticeable 100 years hence.

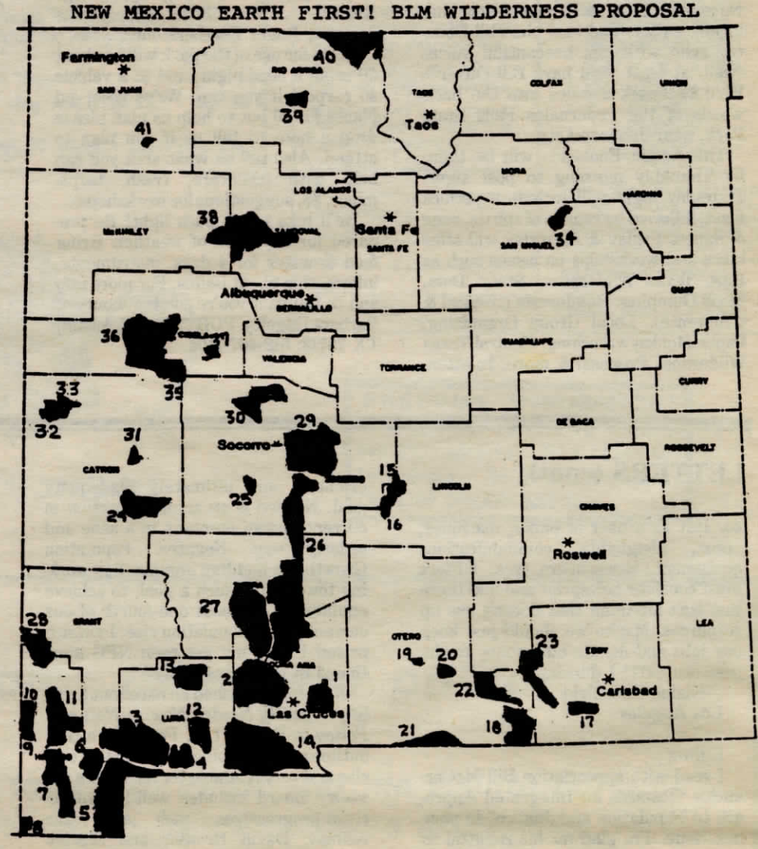
WHAT YOU CAN DO

The NMEF! Wilderness Proposal needs your support. Send comments before Dec. 12 to: State Director, NM (912), BLM, NM State Office, POB 1449, Santa Fe, NM 87504-1449.

Earth First! Wilderness Proposal for New Mexico BLM lands

1. Organ Mountains — 112,900 acres
2. Robledo-Las Uvas Complex — 324,900
3. Cedar Mountains — 253,500
4. Tres Hermanas Mountains — 69,200

5. Big Hatchet Complex — 320,100
6. Little Hatchet Mountains — 74,900
7. Guadalupe Canyon (41,500 National Forest) — 46,100
8. South Rodeo — 37,000
9. North Rodeo — 36,800
11. Pyramid Peak — 161,300
12. Florida Mountains — 86,400
13. Cookes Range — 92,200
14. West Portrillo Mountains — 507,000
15. Little Black Peak — 23,100
16. Carrizozo Lava Flow — 55,300
17. Muggets Complex — 73,800
18. Brokeoff Mountains — 156,700
19. Culp Canyon — 11,600
20. Cress Garden — 24,000
21. Alamo Mountain — 155,520
22. Little Dog Canyon — 110,600
23. Texas Hill — 138,200
24. Continental Divide — 133,700
25. Devil's Backbone — 17,300
26. Jornado Del Muerto — 497,700
27. Caballo Mountains — 235,100
28. Lower Gila Box — 89,900
29. Sierra de las Canas — 270,800
30. Sierra Ladrones — 115,200
31. Horse Mountain — 5,700
32. Mesita Blanca — 34,600
33. Eagle Peak — 63,400
34. Sabinoso — 30,000
35. Rimrock Complex — 110,600
36. El Malpais (18,500 NF) — 253,500
37. Petaca Pinta — 18,500
38. Chamisa (38,000 NF) — 242,000
39. Rio Chama — 39,900
40. San Antonio — 161,400
41. Chaco — 9,200
total proposal — 5,321,600 acres



Lone Wolf Circles will stalk into Santa Fe December 3 with his environmental medicine show to benefit EF!'s wilderness effort. Special guests include Dakota Sid, Chris Wells and others to be announced.

Alamo Hueco Mountains in Big Hatchet complex.

Big Hatchet Mountains. Photos by Dave Foreman.

Sierra de las Canas.

Proposed Chamisa Wilderness.

Will the Mexican Wolf Return?

On another Department of Interior issue, the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) is looking at two areas for possible reintroduction of the Mexican Wolf, an Endangered Species extirpated from the US. One of the areas is in White Sands Missile Range, in central New Mexico, and the other is the Gray Ranch, located in the Animas Mountains in the "boot heel" region of southwestern New Mexico. The current owner of the Gray Ranch is anxious to sell, due to the depressed livestock grazing industry.

Of the two areas, the Gray Ranch looks the most promising for a first introduction due to its relatively isolated location. Life zones such as grasslands, riparian areas, and pine forests are located within the 300,000 acre area. The ranch is home to many other rare species and sub-species, including the White-sided Jackrabbit, several species of hummingbirds, Gould's Turkey, and many birds of prey. Other animals in the area include deer, quail, antelope, and javelina.

Funds for purchasing the ranch would come from already available monies in the Land and Water Conservation Fund, and the area would be managed by the FWS as a National Wildlife Refuge. Area residents would benefit from spending by refuge personnel, hunters, recreationists, and researchers. The NM Cattle Growers Association has come out against introducing the Wolves into either area, despite the fact that Wolves compete with Coyotes and usually force them out wherever they overlap. This is another reason that the "hooved locusts" should be eliminated from public lands of the West.

Letters and petitions on behalf of Mexican Wolf reintroduction should be sent to US congresspersons. Tell them to support the purchase of the Gray Ranch by the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

Steve Marlatt, an EF! contact, is one of the most knowledgeable people in New Mexico on wilderness issues in his state.

EF! Launches Fund Drive to Bring Watt to NM for Carruthers

New Mexico Earth First! has initiated a fundraising drive to bring former Secretary of Interior, James Watt, to New Mexico to campaign for gubernatorial candidate Garrey Carruthers. EF!ers hope that since Carruthers distinguished himself in his role as a "gut fighter" for his boss and mentor's "rape and run" policies, Watt might return the favor and journey to New Mexico to help assure a Carruthers victory. "Considering how much Watt owes Carruthers, only a lack of funds could have prevented a campaign trip," said EF!er Elvira Watson.

"We thrive on confrontation and Garrey has proven he does too," said Big Don Schwarzenegger of EF! at the tribe's first ever political strategy session. "Personally, I'm looking forward to a Carruther's victory and the four years of fisticuffs that are sure to follow. Garrey likes to mix it up, too, judging by the brawl he got into with nine western governors over coal leasing, or the time he took on 12 coastal states over off-shore oil leasing."

The radical EF!ers assembled enthusiastically seconded Don, noting that it was Carruthers who spearheaded the Powder River and Chaco coal scandals which resulted in numerous federal investigations and virtually shut down coal leasing in the West. It was Carruthers dropping more than 1.5 million acres of potential wilderness, including the Bisti Badlands, which swelled the ranks of EF! and the Sierra Club. It was the Watt/Carruthers Department of Interior allowing and encouraging oil rigs to invade the Salt Creek Wildlife Refuge Wilderness near Roswell which brought long-dormant EF!ers out of the closet to lay down in front of the bulldozers, and which finally won a continuing budget resolution from Congress stopping mining in wilderness. "Wow!" exclaimed Laheeta Vigil cognizantly, "Carruthers accomplished a lot of our goals for us." Another EF!er picked up on this. "A Carruthers Administration could spawn a whole new generation of environmental activism in New Mexico!" "That's why we support Garrey!" "Go Garrey. Go Garrey . . . ." The chants finally faded.

Grab your checkbook and send a big one to Carruthers for Governor (Watt Travel Fund) 1519 Paseo de Peralta, Santa Fe, NM 87501. Help bring James Watt to New Mexico to elect his "gut fighter," Garrey Carruthers, Governor, and New Mexico EF! will once again take on the bulldozers! No compromise in defense of Mother Earth! For more info, contact Don Schwarzenegger at (505)988-9126.

WORLD BANK (cont)

Harvard biologist Wilson told the conference, "The current reduction of diversity seems destined to approach that of the great natural catastrophes at the end of the Paleozoic and Mesozoic eras." The modern catastrophe, Wilson said, could be even worse than the prehistoric ones. In those, primarily animal species were exterminated, trilobites to dinosaurs, and plant species survived. These were able to provide the diverse habitats that finally produced mammals. This time, the plants are going as fast as the animals.

On September 30, 350 rainforest activists gathered in Lafayette Park in front of the White House and marched down Pennsylvania Avenue to World Bank Headquarters. Many wore animal masks. A giant rainforest tree also marched. Placards proclaimed, "WE SHALL OVERGROW!," "EARTH FIRST!," "STOP JUNGLE DEATH," and other messages for the office jockeys who lined the streets.

Catherine Caufield emceed the rally, calling for the inclusion of a Freedom of Information Act amendment to include access to World Bank information, and changes in regulations to require input by indigenous peoples on project planning involving their land. There WILL be greater surveillance of World Bank operations, she warned, her voice echoing off the Bank building, and if the Bank does not begin to mend its ways within 12 months, a worldwide campaign to *halt* their operations will begin. Her fiery delivery had the ralliers in an uproar.

Dr. Jose Lutzenberger of Brazil stated the case for stopping the Polonoroeste project that is destroying the heart of the Amazon rainforest.

The Bread and Puppet Theater portrayed the consequences of Bank involvement in rainforests, using music, placards and an insinuating voice in such a way that even the denizens of the Bank across the street understood.

Dr. Fona Charu of Botswana excoriated the Bank for funding a series of calamitous cattle ranching operations that are reducing Botswana's savannahs to desert under the pressure of more than three million export-destined cattle: Two World Bank funded operations have been abandoned after degrading hundreds of square miles of fragile grasslands into desert. Now Livestock III [sounds like a horror flick] is being implemented to open the last wild areas to cattle. The great herds of antelope, zebra and Cape Buffalo are being starved into extermination. Only an immediate halt to Livestock III, he warned, can prevent the total desertification of the Kalihari.

The Nubian Theatre then created a remarkable synthesis of jazz and representations of the voices of wind, water, beast, and plant. During their performance, a person in front of the stage [who was dressed like a street person, but was, no doubt, a cleverly disguised finance minister] stood up and began loudly complaining about the Nubians' intense music, and was helped out of the crowd by a giant parrot.

As financiers left the Bank for the National Gallery of Art, where Brazilian and American bankers were throwing a $750,000 bash, Dr. Brent Blackwelder denounced the Three Gorges Damn project, which would block the Yangtze River in China. The Yangtze rises on the Tibetan plateau and wends its way more than 4000 miles to the China Sea. The $10-20 billion project will drown tens of thousands of square miles of land in Sichuan province, blocking the annual flood of silt and nutrients that nourishes the habitats of floodplain wildlife, the ecosystems of the China Sea, and the fields of millions of farmers.

Following Dr. Blackwelder, lion dancers from the Kung Fu Society of DC prowled in eerie grace before the stage, to the pulse of drummers.

Dr. Akilaparte Ramakrishna of Woods Hole spoke against the Narmada Dams project, which would include 165 major dams and many more smaller dams on western India's Narmada River and its tributaries. The dams will drown 1000 square miles of forest and 3000 square miles of farmland. One million farmers and tribal people will be uprooted, courtesy of the World Bank.

After Indian musicians played a haunting raga, Randy Hayes leapt onto the stage. "We're here to trash the World Bank!" he shouted. We aren't here merely to commiserate about the Bank's intrigues, he reminded us. Organize! Inform the public! Tell your congressfolks you want the Freedom of Information Act amended to include the World Bank. The Bank operates on a presumption of public ignorance; brought under public scrutiny, many of their projects will be seen for the profit-directed ecocidal schemes they are.

With a thunderous ovation, the rally closed. People knotted into small groups, strategizing for battles to come. Meanwhile, after listening to US Treasury Secretary James Baker's exhortation to reduce Third World nation debt by (what else?) lending them more money, bankers left the building and calmed themselves by staring at a huge photograph by the door of the Mayflower Hotel ballroom — a giant pile of gold bullion.

Ron Huber is best known for his daring tree sitting exploits in Oregon. He is now back at his home in Maryland.

Photos by Barbara Dugelby of Washington, DC, World Bank Protest September 30.

KAIBAB: A Return to Vision

by Dave Foreman

There are few areas of greater significance in the early history of wilderness preservation than the Kaibab Plateau north of the Grand Canyon. There are also few areas that have been more poorly managed by the United States Forest Service.

Aldo Leopold wrote that when he arrived in the Southwest in 1909 there were six large roadless areas (over half-a-million acres) still intact in the National Forests of Arizona and New Mexico. Five of these six were ruled by the Grizzly Bear. One of these areas was the Kaibab Plateau.

In 1922, Emerson Hough, a prominent journalist of the day, proposed in the pages of *The Saturday Evening Post* that the Kaibab be designated as a Wilderness Area. This proposal came two years before Leopold was successful in convincing the Forest Service to designate the nation's first Wilderness Area — the Gila in New Mexico.

Alas, nothing came of Hough's proposal and the Forest Service, in concert with game agencies, began to dismember the ecological integrity of the high, richly forested plateau forming the northern part of the Grand Canyon. The Kaibab was home to a world-famous herd of Rocky Mountain Mule Deer. In order to further increase the herd, it was decided to eliminate predators — Wolves, Mountain Lions, bear. One of the more famous ecology textbook case studies ensued — the unpreyed-upon deer underwent a fantastic population explosion and severely overgrazed their range before being balanced by a massive die-off. This episode led Leopold to muse in "Thinking Like A Mountain" that if a deer herd lives in fear of its Wolves, then a mountain lives in fear of its deer.

The vegetation of the Kaibab has never fully recovered from this ecological debacle, and the predators have not fully returned to this day. Further compounding the problem on the Kaibab Plateau, the Forest Service has turned the area into a tree farm, carefully screening the devastation of industrial forestry from the eyes of motor-bound tourists on their way to the North Rim of the Grand Canyon. The fine spruce-fir and Ponderosa pine forests of the plateau have been laced with a spider-web of roads for the benefit of loggers, welfare ranchers, and slob hunters.

Environmentalists have unfortunately ignored the North Kaibab Ranger District in recent decades, concentrating instead on the more glamorous Grand Canyon National Park directly to the south. But the Kaibab Plateau, managed by the Forest Service, is an integral part of the Grand Canyon. Today, the Forest Service is logging ancient forests on the rim of The Canyon itself. (Last year, a bulldozer went over the rim into The Canyon during a logging operation.) Uranium mining claims now threaten the Plateau as well (see separate article).

It is time to return to the proposal of *The Saturday Evening Post*. Fully recognizing that much of the Plateau is damaged and needs wilderness restoration work, Earth First! is proud to endorse the *SEP* proposal of 1922 for a great wilderness preserve on the Kaibab Plateau. In that regard we recommend that:

1) The entire North Kaibab Ranger District be designated as a Wilderness Area/Wilderness Recovery Area with the following exceptions: a) a corridor for US Hwy 89A; b) a corridor for Arizona Hwy 67 from Jacob Lake to the North Rim; c) and an area of 2000 acres around the Jacob Lake development.

2) BLM lands in the House Rock Valley south of US 89A should also be included in the Wilderness.

3) While US 89A will remain open to private vehicle traffic, AZ 67 south of Jacob Lake will be closed to private vehicles (except for bicycles) and a shuttle bus system from Jacob Lake to the North Rim instituted.

4) Forest Roads 422 & 462 will remain open for mountain bicycles, large pack strings, and horse-drawn wagons. Primitive campgrounds may be established along these routes for a threshold wilderness experience. All other roads on the Kaibab Plateau will be returned to nature or re-established as trails.

5) Wolves will be reintroduced to the North Kaibab. If necessary, the Mountain Lion population will be augmented with reintroduced animals. A study will be undertaken to determine if adequate habitat exists to reintroduce the Grizzly Bear.

6) All livestock grazing will be prohibited and watershed/vegetation rehabilitation work undertaken.

7) The Kaibab will be withdrawn from all forms of appropriation under the mining laws.

8) Except on the two highway corridors, all motorized vehicles will be banned from the area.

9) Logging will be prohibited and efforts made to rehabilitate previously logged areas.

Clearly, a major wilderness rehabilitation program is envisioned here, but we should not allow ourselves to be constrained by over sixty years of incompetent and disastrous management by the United States Forest Service in our vision to realize the Kaibab Plateau as an integral part of The Grand Canyon Wilderness Complex.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

*** Support the Earth First! proposal for a Kaibab Plateau Wilderness Area/ Wilderness Recovery Area. Mention the specific points in our proposal if you wish.**

*** For the entire Kaibab National Forest (including the two units south of the Grand Canyon), support the following:**

1) Elimination of livestock grazing;

2) Withdrawal of the entire National Forest from appropriation under the mining laws;

3) Prohibition of trapping, and of any hunting of predators;

4) No cutting of previously unlogged areas or old-growth trees, no deficit timber sales;

5) A complete restriction of all motor vehicles to constructed and maintained roads:

6) No new road construction, and rehabilitation of roads no longer needed due to elimination of mining, grazing, and most logging.

7) No use of herbicides, pesticides or other poisons anywhere on the National Forest.

Send your letter to:
Leonard Lindquist
Forest Supervisor
Kaibab National Forest
800 S. Sixth St.
Williams, AZ 86046

De Motte Park, Kaibab National Forest. Photo by Dave Foreman.

Kaibab Forest Plan Released

by Ned Powell

The proposed Kaibab National Forest Plan is out and open for public comments until November 7. It sets the general direction for management over the next 50 years with specific goals for the next 10-15 years. The Kaibab is truly a National Forest. Anyone who visits the Grand Canyon drives through the Kaibab. If you attend next year's RRR you'll camp in the Kaibab. So this plan deserves comments not only from southwestern EF!ers but from concerned folks throughout the country.

The Plan is especially weak at controlling ORV abuse. Not counting Wilderness Areas which are already closed by law to all motorized vehicles (and which include only about 115,000 of the Kaibab's 1.6 million acres), only 11,392 acres are currently listed as "closed" and more than half that area (5755 acres) has an exemption for snowmobiles. 2773 additional acres are proposed for that classification, but many of them also exempt snowmobles — mainly on the North Kaibab. There are so many roads on the North Kaibab that there is no excuse for allowing snowmobiles to cut through the forest. The Forest Service views ORVers as another user class whose desires should be incorporated into the Plan. They aren't. ORVers are an *abuser* class whose activities degrade the environment and disturb both wildlife and humans. All ORVs should be restricted to existing roads in the forest.

The grazing part of this proposal is equally disturbing. The Kaibab NF lists 790,707 acres as possible rangeland. By their own lax standards only 61% of that is in satisfactory condition, yet the Plan calls for continued use at current levels. Page 9 of the Plan reads, "Permitted grazing use exceeds grazing capacity in the first decade." In addition, they estimate that 24,645 acres of pinyon-juniper forest can be "cost-effectively treated" to make more public land available to welfare-ranchers for overgrazing. "Treated" is a euphemism for chaining the forest — 38.5 square miles of p-j forest bowled over! At the very least, grazing should be stopped immediately on all land in an "unsatisfactory" condition. No additional forest land should be converted to rangeland.

Of course no review of a Forest Plan would be complete without a look at *their timber harvest projections*. Not surprisingly, this section is vague and contradictory. Although the FS here has set a minimum of 15% of the Forest to be established as old growth, the Plan schedules 90% of the Forest to be logged (most on a 120 year rotation). There has already been clearcutting throughout the North Kaibab Ranger District, but the DEIS claims (p.92) "the majority of stands are mature and overmature." Most of the Kaibab Plateau is within the Grand Canyon National Game Preserve but the Forest Service is minimizing wildife and watershed goals in order to manage our land as a giant tree farm. Current timber harvests are yielding an average of 63 million board feet per year. This plan would raise that to 73 million board feet per year for the next ten years.

Freddies Propose Uranium Mine at Grand Canyon

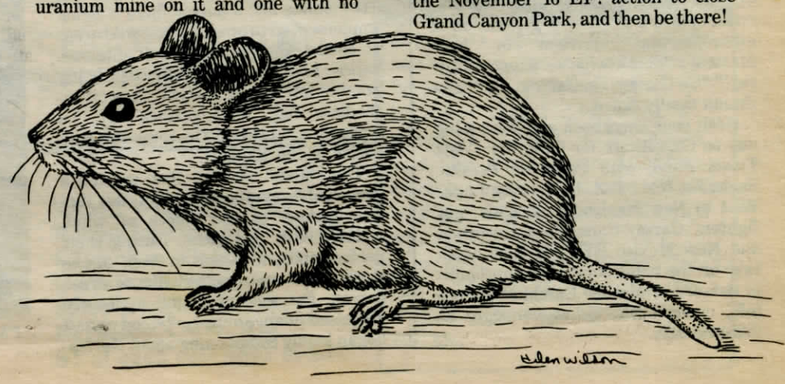
by Lew Kemia

The Final EIS for Energy Fuel Nuclear's Canyon Mine, to be located 13 miles south of the Grand Canyon, was issued September 26 by the Kaibab National Forest. The cover letter for that glorified stack of toilet paper makes no bones about where the Forest Circus stands on this one. The second sentence says, "No environmental impacts are expected from mining operations and ore transportation."

Members of Northern Arizona Earth First! read that statement in total disbelief. They had long expected that the Kaibab's crew of industrial puppets would give EFN the go ahead on this mine, but the recent denial of permits for two nearby mine sites on state land lulled local activists into a false sense of optimism. The implications of this EIS make its release a hostile act.

Concerned individuals, mostly EF!ers, gathered shortly after this hostile act was committed to protest to Kaibab Forest Supervisor Leonard Lindquist. The group of 18 included a mountain lion, raccoon, ferret, and skunk. (The latter was included so that the Freddies might feel more at home.) They met with Lindquist and one of his staffers, Tom Gillette, on October 9 at Kaibab Forest Headquarters to register their intense displeasure with the way the Forest Circus totally abdicated their responsibility to protect public lands. Dan Dagget, a Sierra Club representative, asked if the outrageous statement on the cover letter meant that the Kaibab National Forest was unable to recognize the difference between a piece of forest land with a uranium mine on it and one with no uranium mine. Mary Sojourner of EF! called the document a lie.

One thing this document does tell us is that the fooling around is over. The cards are on the table; the shit is about to hit the fan. Rumor has it that one of the other mining companies poised to rape the Grand Canyon is preparing to make their move. This company, Pathfinders Inc., is owned by the French government and we all know what their environmental policies are like. Read the notice in this issue about the November 16 EF! action to close Grand Canyon Park, and then be there!



Freddies Propose Scopes on Mt. Graham

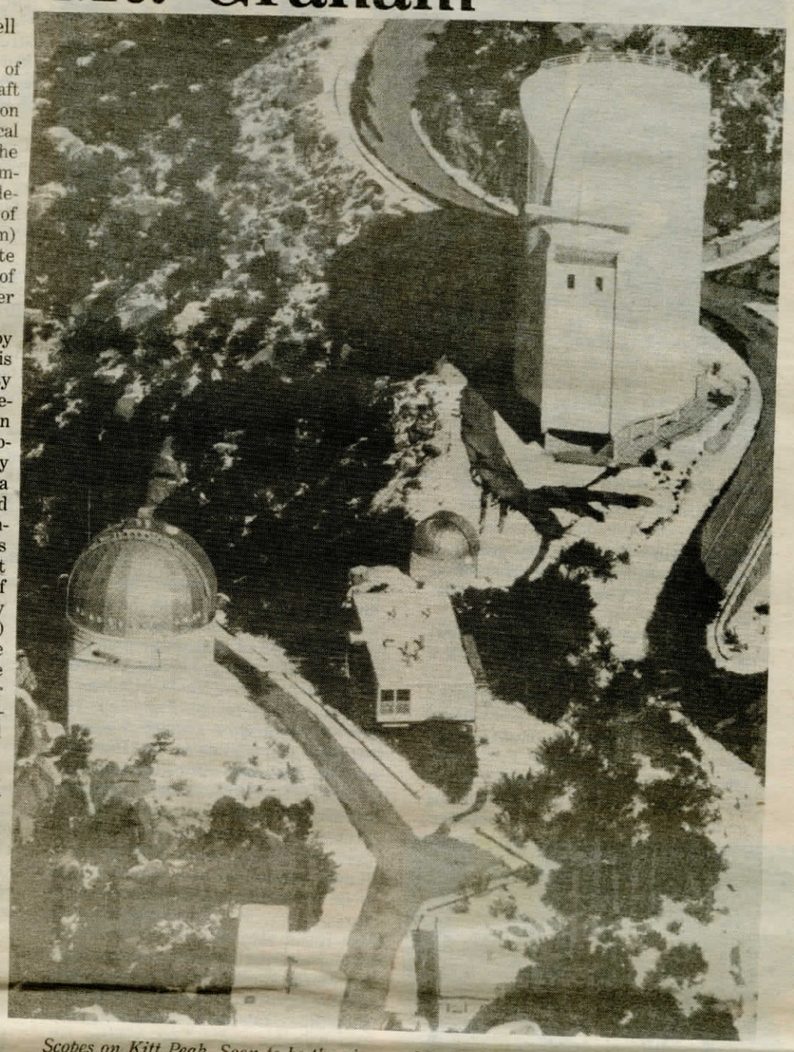
by Anger Birdman with Ned Powell

The Coronado National Forest of southeastern Arizona released its Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed Mt. Graham Astrophysical Area early in October. It confirmed the fears of environmentalists by recommending a development of five telescopes on an exclusive use allocation of seven acres on High Peak (Mt. Graham) in the Pinaleno Mountains. The site would be surrounded by 123 acres of restricted public use area or "buffer zone."

Although the development allowed by the Freddies' Preferred Alternative is scaled down from what the University of Arizona's Steward Observatory requested, it nonetheless constitutes an unacceptable "foot in the door" development on one of the most environmentally sensitive spots in the 3500 acre area studied. Spokespersons for the broad based opposition movement, which includes recreationists and sportsmen as well as conservationists, agreed that there was no guarantee that the U of A wouldn't eventually get all they wanted (as proposed in Alternative F) by returning to the Forest Disservice later for additional allocations. Once the core development is in place, the door is open for all 18 astronomical insutruments and a sprawl of concrete and steel across the entire mountaintop.

The issue is highly controversial with much news coverage. Mainstream environmental groups have vowed to sue to block development if all else fails, and the Coalition for the Preservation of Mt. Graham has organized a powerful bloc of outdoor and environmental groups. Nevertheless, the Freddies knuckled under pressure from politicians and the U of A and recommended the development.

Several big questions remain, such as how the future determination by the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) on the proposed listing of the Mt. Graham Red Squirrel (*Tamiasciurus hudsonicus grahamensis*) as Endangered with Critical Habitat will affect the development. High Peak is the center of the densest population of squirrels and the Forest Circus admits a development there would raise their chances of extinction 15%. Earth First! hopes the FWS will nix the Freds' Preferred Alternative with Critical Habitat designation for all of High Peak. In case all else fails, plans are being formulated for non-violent civil disobedience in defense of Mt. Graham.



Scopes on Kitt Peak. Soon to be the view on Mt. Graham?

Of the seven alternatives presented in the DEIS, only three include no allocation for astrophysical use. These three show varying degrees of protection for the 3500 acre management area — ranging from no action to one including a 680 acre Zoological-Botanical Area for the unique spruce-fir forest and the nearly extinct Mt. Graham Red Squirrel, plus an additional 1000 acres of roadless area to be added to the existing 62,000 acre WSA. None of the alternatives includes a mix of management prescriptions acceptable to the Coalition for the Preservation of Mt. Graham. All are too weak in protective values or too restrictive on current uses to be acceptable to all the various interests. A Coalition team has developed a "Keep Mt. Graham Wild and Free" alternative and will present it to the Freds.

Without departing from our association with the conservative Coalition, EF! is developing a management direction for Mt. Graham which will include, among other essential measures, establishment of three Research Natural Areas (RNAs) at the unusual subalpine wet meadows (cienegas) which the Deforest Service eliminated from the plan. (EF! already has presented to the Coronado Forest its Mt. Graham Wilderness Proposal, which would enlarge the Mt. Graham roadless area by closing short sections of road and would protect all the roadless area as Wilderness.)

HOW YOU CAN HELP

However you let the FS know that *any* development on Mt. Graham is absolutely unacceptable, it will have an immeasurable influence on the Regional Forester's ultimate decision. 1. To obtain a copy of the DEIS, call the Coronado NF at 602-629-6483. (Office of Arid Lands Studies Environmental Data Report and Steward Observatory's Master Site Development Plan are also available upon request.) 2. Letters are still needed, before Nov. 21, to support the proposed listing of the Mt. Graham Red Squirrel as Endangered with Critical Habitat. Write: Michael Spear, Regional Director, USFWS, POB 1306, Alb., NM 87103. 3. The public comment period on the Mt. Graham DEIS closes Jan. 20, 1987. Send letters to: Robert Tippeconnic, Supervisor, Coronado NF, 300 W Congress St., Tucson, AZ 85701. 4. Send contributions to AZ EF!, POB 5871, Tucson, 85703.

Anger and Ned are two of EF!'s experts on the Mt. Graham issue.

GIVING GRAND (MOTHER) CANYON A BREAK

by Mary Sojourner

Have mercy! Old Grand (mother) Canyon has been working hard. She needs a day of rest. Northern Arizona Earth First! and Canyon Under Siege need your help in giving the Canyon that well-deserved vacation from human impact . . . on Sunday, November 16, 1986, from 8AM to 5PM.

1. Contact your local media with the following statement: Earth First! and Canyon Under Siege, a Flagstaff-based coalition dedicated to protecting the Grand Canyon and its surrounding ecosystems from uranium mining and hauling, would like to give the Canyon a much needed day of rest. The Canyon has been home for eons to magnificent wildlife; a Federal employee since its dedication as a National Park in 1919; and an unpaid, abused and silent partner to air, bus and general tour companies. We ask that all tourists stay away from Grand Canyon National Park on Sunday, November 16, from 8AM to 5PM. Tourists in the Park are asked to avoid motorized transport.

All Grand Canyon fans are welcome to join us outside the Park, near the South and East entrances, in demonstrations of respect and support for the Canyon . . . now under serious threat from uranium mining interests, who hold tens of thousands of claims on both North and South rims. Join us in this day of respect, so that 25, 50, 1000 years from now, the Grand Canyon will remain her silent, majestic and wild self.

2. Join us at the South and East entrances to the Canyon, outside Park boundaries, anytime between 8 and 5 on the 16th. There will be many opportunities for demonstrations of respect, resistance, and affection. EF! Northern Arizona and CUS will hold workshops on affinity-building and the mining threats on Saturday, Nov.15, in Flagstaff. Call 602-774-0130 or 774-8601. Please provide your own food and shelter.

3. Come to Flagstaff Nov.13 and DANCE . . . to Major Lingo and a mystery band, SAC ball-room, NAU, a benefit concert for Canyon Under Siege, co-sponsored by CUS, EF!, Sierra Club and Flagstaff Friends of the River; 8-midnight. Raffle and the opportunity to see EF!ers, hippies, punks, college kids and Patagonia clones melded in a puddle of unbridled ecolust.

4. Encourage any groups (anti-nuclear, environmental, feminist, etc.) and individuals to contact us and join in this effort. We need bodies, brains, costumes, media contact and rumors.

EF! Northern AZ intends this to be the first of a regular column on our Earth-lovin' activities in the North Country. Any Northland news, gossip and outrage you want passed on, send to M.S., OCSR #14, Flagstaff, AZ 86001.

New England Rendezvous Held

by Jonathan von Ranson

The first Earth First! conference for the Northeast took place the weekend of October 4 in Wendell, Massachusetts, where a nine-year-old battle to stop highway relocation plans is coming to a head. Thirty-five participants discussed tactics to keep a six-mile stretch of Mass. Rt. 2 out of a relatively wild area that includes part of the state forest system and a whitewater stretch of the Millers River, one of the four principal tributaries to the Connecticut River in Massachusetts. They took a Walk on the Wild Side of the Millers and met the bear that has haunted Governor Michael "Duke" Dukakis, a lapsed environmentalist who has discovered the electoral version of crack: jobs and the economy. (The Greek-speaking bear — and a midnight caper that resulted in the Governor encountering the message, "Hay Duke, No Rt. 2" written across a football field where his helicopter was landing . . . and a lot of less glamorous work — have improved the odds the road won't be built.)

Other topics covered at the conference included The Fate of Our Forests, led by Dan Hemenway of Orange, MA, Bioregional Networking by Craig Stehr, Personal Permaculture by Thelma Snell and Endangered Species with Max Strahan. Strahan is working with Greenworld on the designation of the Right Whale as an Endangered Species.

Food and music were good. The latter was provided by Court Dorsey — whose version of "Serious Men are Running Our World" shows good music can be sarcastic — and by Steve Crow and Buris Jenkins.

Useful linkages also came out of the conference. Strahan expressed the conference's most successful function: "When you go back to fight that lonely battle, it helps to know you're not alone.

BOYCOTT BOWATER-SCOTT

In Australia, of original forest cover, 56% has been cleared and 70% of the remaining forest has been severely damaged. By the year 2000 there will be over one million hectares lost to pine plantations. Negotiations between Bowater-Scott and government officials to turn public land over to pines in the Beechworth, Myrtleford, Bright, Ovens Valley, Koettong and areas east of Tallangatta were held in secret. Victorian taxpayers subsidize pine plantations for private transnationals such as B-S. Royalties do not cover roads, port facilities, or fire control. Timber companies flood the market with cheap imports to pressure the government to further reduce the royalties. When B-S and the Victorian Government held secret negotiations in April, 1986, the result was B-S being given 8900 acres of public land for pine planting.

As consumers we should not buy products which demand that our flora and fauna suffer further. BOYCOTT BOWATER-SCOTT! Write to: Mr. L.A. Wilson, Bowater-Scott Corp., 11 Ailsa St., Box Hill, 3128, Australia. Products to boycott are: Sorbent, Scotties, Bowater-Scott Family Napkins, Lady Scott, Dri Tot Diapers, A.F.I. Sawn Timber and plywood products.

300 Attend California Rendezvous

by Karen DeBraal

"We are the only radicals who have fun! We live, Live, LIVE!!," hollered Dave Foreman at the evening rally of the California Rendezvous at Big Basin State Park. We certainly did live, on that weekend of October 17-19, our senses sharpened by EF! bards and the magnificence of the old growth redwoods, the bright afternoons, and the clear nights.

The park nearly overflowed with 300 EF!ers. While most were from California, six other countries — New Zealand, Canada, Brazil, West Germany, India, and *Oregon* — were also represented. Earth warriors such as Paul Watson of the Sea Shepherd inspired us with words concerning the power that a few courageous people can wield. Earth First!'s joyous anger cut loose: visions solidified into planned actions amid howls of the tribe and stirrings of the reptilian portions of our brains.

After an acceptably rowdy campfire on Friday night, folks nestled down under redwood, oak, and madrone friends. After waking up at an hour sensibly past the scheduled meeting time, people gathered in Sky Meadow to plan eco-actions. Results and strategies generated include:

OFF-SHORE OIL: California off-shore oil development is on hold for three years as Congress didn't appropriate money for ocean rape, but in 1989 all lands off the West Coast will be opened to development unless action is taken. EF! CA plans to network with Save Our Shores, Greenpeace, and other groups working on the issue, and to set up a coalition similar to the Rainforest Action Network. The goal is a statewide initiative against off-shore oil development. Direct actions are in the works.

Little Wolves watch Sally Miller and Gena Trott decorate Dave Foreman's biiiggg birthday cake. Photo by David Cross.

MOUNTAIN LIONS: Sharon Negri of the Mountain Lion Coalition gave a history of the twisted Mountain Lion politics in California. (During workshop discussion, Paul Watson contributed ideas with which Sea Shepherd has had success in saving animals in Canada. One of Sea Shepherd's successful tactics was to spread the rumor that hunting endangered animals was a manifestation of the hunter's perverse sexual proclivities.) In February of '87, hearings will be held concerning trophy hunting of lions. To prevent the slaughter of lions for someone's perverse sexual hang-ups and pioneer mentality, an educational campaign will begin on October 30, in front of the Department of Fish and Game in San Francisco. The lion will be made a symbol of what is happening to wildlife in CA. Plans for civil disobedience will be developed.

RAINFORESTS: After reporting on the success of the International Day of Protest on September 30 (60 demonstrations worldwide, about half by EF!), Randy Hayes told of a reform packet to be delivered to the World Bank which basically says: if our resolutions are not met within six months there will be an all-out international effort to cut funding for the World Bank. The Rainforest Action Network is also working on a program to ban beef imports from Central America and to get AID to put money into programs of sustainable agriculture, parks, and alternative beef production methods. RAN is trying to obtain $57,000 to assist in this. A plan by Coca-Cola to buy 15,000 acres in a Jaguar preserve in Belize to turn into a citrus grove for orange juice was discussed and research plans were generated. We expect to add Coca-Cola products (Minute Maid O.J., etc.) to the list of products to boycott.

FOREST PLANS: Two groups were formed to discuss methods of saving the Mendocino and Inyo National Forests. Mendocino folks plan to develop an alternative forest plan and create a master form letter to use as a pressure tool. The Inyo group, led by the redoubtable Sally Miller, plans to stop ski area construction, save the White Mountains, and demand more Wilderness than the current plan would designate.

BLM DESERT: EF!ers will create a proposal that will make Senator Cranston's desert wilderness bill look weak. Direct action against the Barstow to Vegas desert demolition race, which starts November 29 near Baker, is being considered.

Other workshops included Deep Ecology with Bill Devall, a lesson on tree-climbing, Grizzly Bear reintroduction, direct action against plans to capture the last three free-flying California Condors, and direct action possibilities for the northern California portion of the Kalmiopsis roadless area.

In the shadows of a bright moon, the success of the afternoon and the joys of living were celebrated at a rally in the park amphitheatre. The condor skit brought back a quality of nature theatrics nearly absent since the demise of primitive peoples. Merry jigs were danced to the music of Hope Baldwin and her consorts, and Cecilia Ostrow's voice entranced even the roving children.

A birthday cake with 40 candles was presented to Dave Foreman. As a proper EF! cake should do, it represented a battle to save the wilderness — toppled Tonka trucks and fallen cowboys lay in the green frosting with EF! Indians surrounding them. Strips of madrone bark symbolized the fallen trees of an old growth forest, while bits of redwood trees showed the return of the forest after victory. Thanks goes to Gena Trott for this artistic cake. In his speech, Dave wrenched our emotions with words about the despair and joy of life.

The sharp poetry of Lone Wolf Circles combined with the smooth guitar and voice of Dakota Sid to bring the rally to a passionate close. People then went to a pagan ritual in the meadow and to the typical campfire ritual.

We gathered Sunday for final strategy planning. The Rendezvous was a smashing success and generated much energy for presentations by Dave and Wolf on Monday in Santa Cruz. A giant THANKS! to Tom Skeele, Sally Miller and everyone who made it happen. EARTH FIRST!

Karen, an EF! leader in Santa Cruz, deserves special thanks for this article: At the Rendezvous on Saturday we told her we expected an article from her by Tuesday. She got it here on time!

Capture of last Condor. Photo by David Cross.

Technology-Free Zones

by Christoph Manes

Because technology is at the heart of the ecological crisis, I propose the creation of technology-free zones. The nuclear-free zone movement has shown the way by placing initiatives on the ballot and lobbying local governments to approve anti-nuclear proclamations. My proposal would be more subversive and utopian, hence more patriotic and likely to succeed. The goal is to deny bit by bit not only nuclear technology, but all industrial technology, space in which to operate. It would be a first step to restoring urban wastelands and mechanized farmlands into living ecosystems. The beauty of it is that for the most part the federales couldn't conjure up "national security" against it, as they do with nuclear-free zones, even though closing a factory that makes plastic swizzle-sticks is in the long run probably a greater threat to our central authorities than dismantling ICBMs.

But some distinctions are in order. Technology is *not* an accumulation of machinery; I can't emphasize that enough. It is the demon in our souls, the pestilence in our blood, the worm in our brains, but it is not mere machinery. Less poetically, it is the *logos* of *techne*, the rationalization of our relationship to nature and ourselves into a series of barren techniques. The destructive machinery of industrialism is only the result of this *a priori* relation.

Crafts, on the other hand, tap into the abundance of Earth without disturbing the flow of life. They are autarkical, not based on the creation of markets, and do not require an infrastructure of roads, currency, etc. They also look better on a shelf.

Think of a rope bridge in Amazonia and compare it to the Brooklyn Bridge. The former sways with life as it takes root-gatherers to a favorite locality. The latter bears disgruntled New Yorkers to work so they can pay their utility bills which keeps the dynamos whirring so New Yorkers won't get more disgruntled. The Brooklyn Bridge is built on the discontent of civilization.

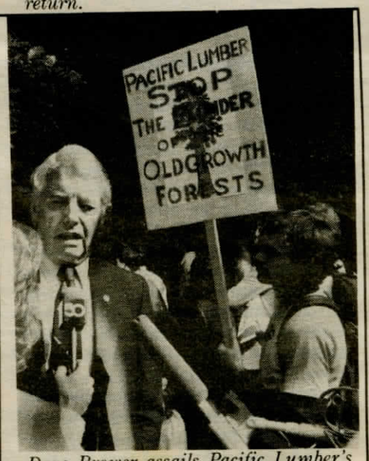
The goal of a technology-free zone would be to replace technology-based economies with crafts. That means changing our way of life to accomodate natural cycles and abandoning the search for "appropriate technologies," which only exist in the minds of technocrats anyway.

How far local communities would like to carry this is up to them. They might merely ban the construction of new industrial installations. They might be smart and demand the removal of existing installations (which seem to be making their way to Singapore anyway). Some communities might want to exclude cars, television, or by-pass surgery.

The effect of all this would be to drive vulgar consumers and sybarites into hard-core urban centers, leaving environmentally-conscious people a free hand to take further action in defense of Mother Earth — such as stopping food shipments to hard-core urban centers.

At the very least, a technology-free zone movement would shift the discourse beyond just preserving wilderness, or even expanding it, to conforming our way of life to the all-pervasive wilderness Earth is destined to become.

Christoph is still in Iceland, but will soon complete his Fulbright studies and return.



Dave Brower assails Pacific Lumber's decimation of Old Growth Redwoods at EF! demonstration in San Francisco Oct. 22. Photo by David Cross.

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Giant Ski Area Assaults Inyo Forest

by Cassiope

Lovers of the Eastern Sierra beware! If the Forest Disservice and developers have their way, five new ski areas could be developed in the northern Inyo National Forest in the next 10 years. Currently two ski areas exist in the northern Inyo near the resort town of Mammoth Lakes: Mammoth Mountain Ski Area (MMSA) and June Mountain. MMSA, owned by Dave McCoy, is the largest ski resort in California (3200 acres) and can accomodate up to 24,000 skiers (mostly Angelinos). June Mountain, 10 miles to the north of MMSA, has just been bought by McCoy and is undergoing expansion.

Between June Mountain and Mammoth Mountain lies the 21,214 acre San Joaquin Ridge Roadless Area (SJRRA) which, aside from the logging of old growth Red Fir along lower Deadman Creek (just outside the roadless area) is in a pristine state. It features a great diversity of vegetation, including: Jeffrey Pine, Lodgepole Pine, Western White Pine, Whitebark Pine, Mountain Hemlock, White Fir, Red Fir, Sierra Juniper, Aspen, Mountain Alder, willow and numerous herbs and shrubs. Of special importance are magnificent stands of large old growth Red Fir, which is uncommon on the eastern slope of the Sierra.

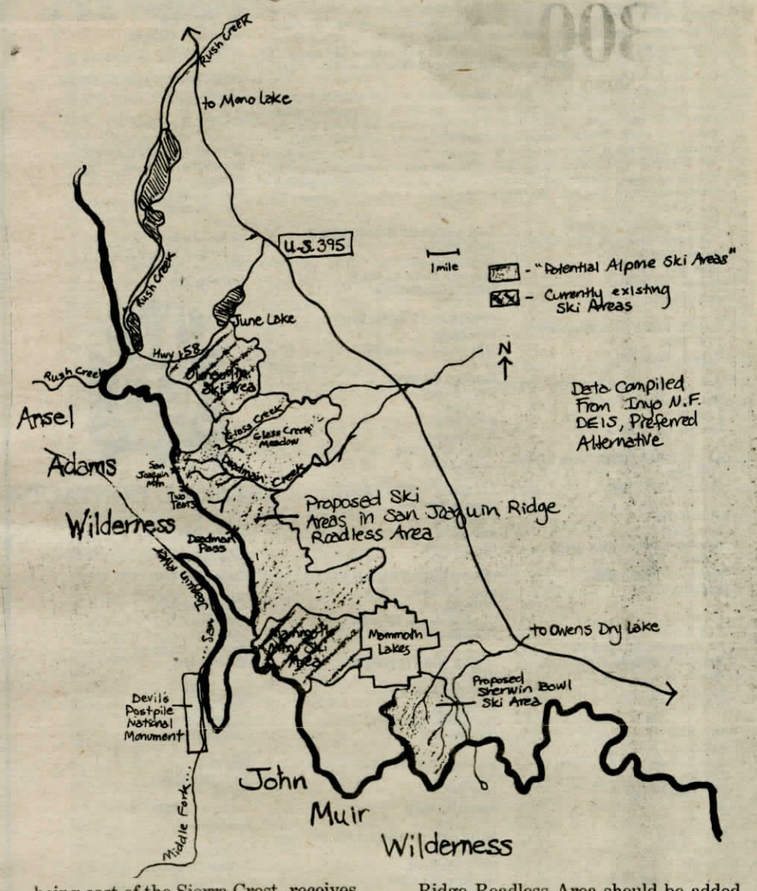
Wildlife species living among the forests, meadows, riparian and alpine areas of the San Joaquin Ridge include: Black Bear, Mountain Lion, Bobcat, Coyote, Rocky Mountain Mule Deer, Red Fox, Gray Fox, Badger, Porcupine, Marten and many smaller animals. Multitudinous bird species live here, including species especially vulnerable to human intrusions such as the Great Horned Owl, the Goshawk, and the Spotted Owl.

From atop 11,600 foot San Joaquin Mountain (highest point on the ridge), one can see the Mono Craters — youngest volcanic chain in North America; the impressive White Mountain Range — a huge roadless area (346,446 acres total in a 251,868 acre area plus three smaller areas) of 14,000 foot peaks and home to the oldest living trees on Earth, the Bristlecone Pines (we be talking 4600 years old!); and Mono Lake. West of the ridge, the Middle Fork of the San Joaquin River, just a few miles from its headwaters, roars through the densely forested valley below. Across the valley rise the jagged, imposing peaks of the Minarets.

In the California Wilderness Act of 1984, the Wilderness boundary of the Ansel Adams Wilderness (formerly the Minarets Wilderness) was extended; but the SJRRA was excluded from Wilderness designation (i.e. "released") due to its ski area potential, as part of a compromise between environmentalists and the Forest Disservice. In the late '70s the San Joaquin Ridge had been identified as a potential ski area (in the Mammoth Recreation & Transportation Interface Plan) and with McCoy now in control of both Mammoth Mountain and June Mountain, his dream of connecting the two and creating the largest ski resort in the *world* is closer to reality. McCoy envisions 100,000 skiers on the slopes at one time! He has plans for four ski areas within the SJRRA: 1) the San Joaquin Ridge itself; 2) White Wing, which would destroy beautiful Glass Creek Meadow; 3) Knolls, near the Inyo Craters and Deadman Pass, an important deer migration route; and 4) Minaret Summit. In developing these areas step by step, it seems that McCoy is attempting to avoid doing a Cumulative Impact Study (CIS) which is mandated by CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act).

Perhaps an even more imminent danger is the proposed development of the Sherwin Bowl Ski Area (SBSA). The 3800 acre Sherwin Bowl Roadless Area (SBRA) lies just south of Mammoth Lakes, and adjoins the John Muir Wilderness. The outstanding wilderness qualities of the SBRA are exemplified by remote Solitude Canyon. The Sherwin area is an important migration route for the Sherwin Herd of 3000 deer. The SBRA was also "released" with the passage of the California Wilderness Act, again as a compromise between environmentalists and the Forest Disservice. Developers have seen the Sherwin area as a potential skiing site since 1967.

There are many reasons why development of the SBSA is unfeasible. Besides its wilderness qualities and its importance for the deer, the project would require "extensive terrain modification," according to Bob Wood, Winter Sports Specialist for the Inyo National Forest. When asked at a public meeting what this meant, he replied: "bulldozers and dynamite." The Sherwin area, being east of the Sierra Crest, receives much less snow than does Mammoth Mountain and the question arises as to where water would be obtained for "snow-making" in the increasingly water-thirsty Eastern Sierra, and also how development would affect creeks downstream from the ski area.



At a public meeting equally attended by developers and environmentalists, environmentalists demanded that the SBSA *not* be treated as separate entity but that the Eastern Sierra be treated as a whole and a CIS be done by the FS to assess the potential development of *five* new ski areas. Wildlife biologists from DFG (CA Department of Fish & Game) and BLM pointed out that by not undertaking a CIS, NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act) and CEQA are being blatantly violated. What's more, developers and the FS are trying to circumvent the Draft Inyo National Forest Plan (DINFP), due out October 20, thereby reducing the amount of public input. They are trying to circumvent the DINFP by doing the SBSA EIS separately and including very little study of this threat in the DINFP. Yes, the Forest Disservice does do such sneaky things . . . .

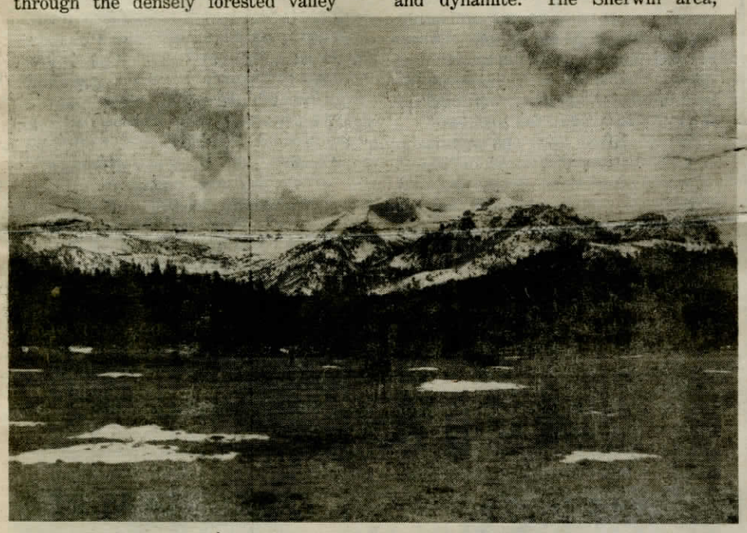
The Eastern Sierra does *not* need another ski resort. Already the environment has been greatly degraded by the 10-30,000 alpine skiers who descend upon the town of Mammoth Lakes and surrounding areas. What will happen to the forests, wildlife and souls of wilderness lovers if 100,000 people descend upon the Eastern Sierra each weekend? Mammoth Lakes, already considered by some to be the Los Angeles of the Eastern Sierra, will truly be so.

Eastern Sierra Earth First! demands that no new ski areas be built anywhere in the Sierra Nevada. The San Joaquin Ridge Roadless Area should be added to the Ansel Adams Wilderness. All logging of old growth Red Fir should cease and the logged forest should be returned to a natural state. FS logging roads along lower Deadman and Glass Creeks just outside the SJRRA should be closed and this area should be included as Wilderness. The 3800 acre Sherwin Bowl Roadless Area should be added to the John Muir Wilderness.

Unfortunately, this is just the beginning of the proposed destruction of the Inyo National Forest. According to DFG biologists who have seen the Draft Inyo Forest Plan, "the plans place overriding emphasis on dramatic, short-term increases in commodity outputs, such as timber harvest, mineral extraction and livestock use, at the expense of fish and wildlife and the health of the natural environment." We must stop the continued rape of John Muir's Range of Light before it is too late!

WHAT YOU CAN DO

1) The Sherwin Bowl Ski Area EIS is due out on March 1, 1987. You can request a copy of it from the Inyo NF (address below). Comment on the EIS; demand that the EF! guidelines be met. 2) The Draft Inyo National Forest Plan is due out on Oct. 20. Those who have seen the plan say that only 50,000-200,000 acres are proposed as Wilderness additions (the White Mountains Roadless Areas alone encompass 346,446 acres!). Heavy emphasis is placed on recreation, grazing, mining and logging. Request a copy of the DINFP now! Write: Dennis Martin, Forest Supervisor, Inyo NF, 873 N Main St., Bishop, CA 93514. An EF! proposal is being formulated for the Inyo NF. Please send suggestions to Eastern Sierra EF!, POB 22, Lee Vining, CA 93541.



San Joaquin Mountain, Glass Creek Meadow. Photo by Cassiope.

Wetlands Under Attack

by Robert F. Mueller

Every stream and wetland in the US that is not specifically protected is subject to destruction through the administrative practices of the US Army Corps of Engineers and state agencies. If a potential polluter wants to dike, dredge or otherwise mutilate our waters all he has to do is apply for a few easy-to-get permits from state and federal agencies. The district engineer will then do a preliminary "study" that almost invariably concludes that the environmental impact would minimal. This conclusion is then stamped by other agencies.

The state of Virginia is plagued by many examples of this problem. For example, developers are now getting permits to dredge, fill and build a road in Long Hill Swamp and Chisel Run of James City County. This project will destroy floodplain forest wetland and further contribute to the demise of Chesapeake Bay. In this case, the Virginia Marine Resources Commission gave its permission because it maintains it has jurisdiction over only a small part of the project. In another example, from Albemarle County, there is a proposal to dredge gravel from the bed of the Rivana River, with no regard for aquatic life or hydrologic effects. Again the Corps says the effect will be minimal!

In each case that comes before it a state agency passes on only a narrowly defined part of the project and ignores the total effect of the whole project. It is easy for agencies to ignore small but damaging projects or limited aspects of projects with serious cumulative effects.

Ironically, our state and federal agencies ask taxpayers to fund a "clean up" of Chesapeake Bay, yet pay no attention to streams and wetlands that feed the Bay. To protect our waters, we need detailed exposure of Corps and agency bureaucrats. The recent victory that saved Sweedens Swamp in Massachusetts was merely a drop out of the bucket of wetland destruction being sanctioned by the Corps with their fake permit system — which allows any destruction unless countered by strong political pressure and citizens' opposition. **Protests against this continuing wetland destruction should be sent to: Office of the Chief Engineer, Army Corps of Engineers, 20 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Wash., DC 20314.**

The Earth First! Directory

The Earth First! Directory lists the contact points for the international Earth First! movement. It is divided into three sections: 1) National EF! offices in the United States, and international contacts; 2) Active EF! Chapters or Groups; and 3) Contact persons where there is as yet no active EF! group. If you are interested in becoming active with the Earth First! movement, contact the folks listed for your area.

Earth First! The Radical Environmental Journal is an independent entity within the international Earth First! movement, and is not the newsletter of the Earth First! movement. It does, however, provide a forum for Earth First!ers around the world. This directory is provided as a service to independent EF! groups. If you would like to be listed as a contact or as a group, please contact Bob Kaspar (305 N. Sixth St., Madison, WI 53704 (608)241-9426). Please send address changes or corrections to him also. If you do not have a phone number listed, please send it to him. Bob acts as coordinator for local EF! groups for the EF! movement.

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MARCH FOR THE BEARS

by Randall T. Restless

Labor Day, Dunraven Pass, Yellowstone National Park: The sow Grizzly moved slowly up the slope of Mt. Washburn, ignoring the tourists watching her from the road. Her silvery fur shimmered in the afternoon light. Suddenly from nearby trees appeared two cubs, frolicking in the meadow as bear cubs should. As I watched these happy animals, it was hard to believe that Yellowstone's Grizzlies are in trouble. Yet they are. Here was one of perhaps 30 breeding females left in the entire ecosystem, as I explained to incredulous tourists in exchange for their signatures on a petition.

I had just taken part in the "March for the Bears," a 26 mile protest walk from Grant Village to Fishing Bridge. The march was sponsored by The Campaign for Yellowstone's Bears and the Earth First! Grizzly Bear Task Force. A dozen marchers walked the highway for three days, carrying signs and talking to tourists. The march was the idea of Tony Povilitis; the purpose being to protest the Grizzly management policies of the National Park Service (NPS), to call for a halt to further development in the Yellowstone Ecosystem, and to continue to pressure the NPS to uphold their agreement to close the Fishing Bridge area. The march was also a follow-up to a series of three protests this year by EF!, the last of which resulted in the arrests of 19 EF!ers.

The night before the march began, the group attended a ranger talk, and Tony upset the ranger by asking her pointed questions about NPS bear management policies. The march began Saturday at Grant, after a demonstration at the visitor center. We elicited responses from vehicle-bound tourons, but most of them were in a rush to get to Old Fateful in time for the next eruption, or to Grant to shop at the K-Mart, and roared by us. At least they got the idea that all is not well in the Grand Old Park. Fortunately, many vehicles slowed long enough for their occupants to respond. Many honked, cheered, and expressed approval for our efforts. The negative reactions were discouraging. Most of these people have, at best, a vague idea of what we are protesting. Some hurl insults out of spite. Others see us criticizing their pet government agency, the NPS, and figure *we* are the ignorant ones. The things we could tell them if they'd listen for a moment!

As we walked along the west shore of Lake Yellowstone, we were treated to a cool lake breeze. Across the wide expanse of water we could see the Absaroka Range, home of the Crow Indians and the Grizzly. Also visible were the Continental Divide, draped with huge snowfields, and Mt. Sheridan with its fire lookout. A wonderful landscape. However, it was marred by two things: Powerboats buzzed up and down the lake, spewing oil and gas into its sacred waters while fat cats sipped martinis on deck. Worse yet, the southern shore of West Thumb held a sprawling growth of condos — Grant Village. Ah, Grant! Thorn in the paw of the Grizzly, cancer in the heart of Yellowstone!

Sunday afternoon we approached Bridge Bay, footsore but jubilant after 15 miles of marching. As we strolled through the campground, a group of oldsters surrounded by huge RVs yelled, "Go to Russia!" Certainly the most bizarre response of the weekend.

Monday morning was overcast, but nothing could stop us now, short of an eruption of the Yellowstone caldera. We hoisted our signs and headed toward the infamous Fishing Bridge. While still in the campground, the lead marchers were nearly mowed down by a maniac who drove straight at them, stopped at the last moment, then made a well-known gesture with his middle finger. The marchers didn't budge. The five miles to the bridge went smoothly in spite of downpours which caused our signs to sag. Reactions from passers-by were mostly favorable.

At Fishing Bridge, we talked to tourists, handed out leaflets, and collected signatures. Mid-afternoon we marched across the bridge toward the RV park to reclaim it for the Griz. Gusts blew down a couple of our signs as we crossed the bridge. A bad omen? Aah, we may be pagans, but we ain't superstitious. Arriving at ground zero, we hoisted a bear flag and a US flag, proclaiming this land as once again the rightful domain of the Grizzly.

NPS rangers were conspicuously absent, in stark contrast to earlier EF! protests in the area, when SWAT teams lurked on the periphery of vision, drooling for a chance to test their water cannons and verbal judo. It appears the NPS has adopted a new strategy of ignoring us when possible, thereby reducing our media appeal and thus our impact. More radical actions in the future may be one way to counteract this new tactic.

We debated roaming the RV park and inciting tourists to acts of vandalism, but decided to leave that to the rangers. Proceeding to the campground, we proclaimed it closed and held a small ceremony in honor of brother bear. This ended the March for the Bears, so we exchanged addresses, embraces, and goodbyes.

On my way north that day I saw the three Grizzlies on Mt. Washburn. As did Dave Foreman in July, I took this sighting as a sign to "keep on." (I believe this was the same Mama and cubs seen by Dave and the rest of the desperados.) And keep on we must. We must continue to pressure the NPS to uphold their agreement to Close-Fishing-Bridge!

When the animals come to us
asking for our help,
will we know what they are saying?
When the plants speak to us
in their delicate, beautiful language,
will we be able to answer them?
When the planet herself
sings to us in our dreams
will we be able to wake ourselves, and act?

(from "Bear Magic" by Gary Lawless)

The planet sings to us, friends. Wake and act!

Bear marchers in Yellowstone. Photo by Tony Povilitis.

An Open Letter to Rep. Pat Williams on Fishing Bridge

Dear Congressman Williams:

I would like to ask for your assistance to insure that Yellowstone's Fishing Bridge Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) presents the public with an accurate assessment of the management alternatives available for Fishing Bridge.

Yellowstone's April 1986, Fishing Bridge Public Response "Newsletter" — a scoping document for the EIS — was misleading. In my opinion, the Park Service is trying to trick the public into supporting plans to build 650 *new* campsites in Yellowstone.

Please allow me to give a succinct historical summation of the Fishing Bridge controversy; then judge the facts for yourself.

According to the June 1979, Grant Village Environmental Assessment, the rationale for building new facilities at Grant is that this would enable the Park Service to remove facilities from Fishing Bridge and other environmentally sensitive areas. It was on these terms that the US Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) endorsed the Grant Village Proposal. During Endangered Species Act "formal consultations" on the Grant Village proposal, the FWS approved construction at Grant, provided the National Park Service (NPS) agree to remove the Fishing Bridge campground by 1985 and the RV Park by 1986.

The NPS agreed to this arrangement, but in 1985, Wyoming Senator Alan Simpson asked the NPS to write a Fishing Bridge EIS. He felt the EIS should substantiate the biological need to close Fishing Bridge, and determine what economic impact the closures might have on communities adjacent to the Park. The NPS agreed to write the EIS, and the decision to close Fishing Bridge was SUSPENDED, pending completion of the EIS in 1987.

When the NPS released the Fishing Bridge Newsletter, however, it misrepresented the situation at Fishing Bridge. The Newsletter lists five alternative plans, including a "no-action" alternative. (The National Environmental Policy Act requires every EIS to include a no-action alternative.) According to the Newsletter, if no action occurs, facilities at Fishing Bridge will remain open. This is incorrect. If no action occurs, facilities at Fishing Bridge will be removed in accordance with the 1979 trade-off agreement.

Remember: the agreement was suspended, not abrogated. And the NPS does not have any authority to reverse the 1979 agreement. Only the FWS can declare the 1979 trade-off null and void. The 1979 agreement is still in effect. Thus, the no-action alternative should be corrected to read: The Fishing Bridge campground and RV Park would be removed.

The Newsletter's Alternatives A, B and C are also inaccurate and misleading. Each of these alternatives state that the campground and RV Park would be "relocated." But these facilities have already been relocated and replaced at Grant. The NPS can't relocate the same facilities twice. Consequently, alternatives A, B and C should be corrected to read: A NEW campground and/or RV Park will be built in the park.

Alternative D calls for fencing the campground and RV Park, which is not a viable alternative. The 1979 agreement called for removing these facilities, not fencing them. The NPS does not have the authority to modify the agreement. Unless the FWS modifies the 1979 agreement, fencing cannot be considered an alternative.

Clearly, the Newsletter did not provide the public with an opportunity to comment on alternatives that can actually be implemented at Fishing Bridge. The problem now is that Park Superintendent Robert Barbee says about 650 people responded to the Newsletter, which means 650 people have been misled. Furthermore, their comments — based on the erroneous information provided by the Newsletter — will now form the basis of the alternatives offered in the Draft EIS scheduled for release in October.

I feel this situation must be rectified.

So first, I ask how you would suggest that these 650 people be informed that the alternatives offered in the Newsletter were untenable. They should be given the opportunity to comment on the actual alternatives available at Fishing Bridge.

Second, what measures do you suggest be taken to insure that the Draft EIS presents the public with rational, valid alternatives?

I recommend that the NPS re-write the Newsletter and send copies of the revised Newsletter to the 650 people who commented on the original, misleading Newsletter. Naturally, some type of committee should review the revised Newsletter to assure that it is factually correct. It would be imperative to have an attorney on the committee to act on behalf of the public. The same committee should scrutinize the Draft EIS prior to its release.

I realize this seems like an extreme measure. However, the NPS has demonstrated that it is a renegade agency that can't be trusted. The fallacious Newsletter is not an isolated incident or an accident. Since 1972 the NPS has been making misleading statements and telling outright lies in order to build Grant and not close Fishing Bridge. I would be glad to provide you with a full history if you're interested.

The public deserves better, but the Park Service will never tell the truth about Fishing Bridge unless Congress intervenes. In closing, I would like to request your assistance to insure that the public has an opportunity to comment on a revised Newsletter, and that the Draft EIS is accurate.

Please let me know what action you think should be taken in regard to this matter. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,
David A. Smith

Drying asphalt on new trailer sites at Grant Village only 1300 feet from a Grizzly feeding stream. Photo by Tony Povilitis.

Stream used by Grizzlies near Grant Village. Photo by Tony Povilitis.

Freddies NAPALM Texas Wild

by Barbara Dugelby

East Texas once was a land rich in woods and wildlife, with contiguous miles of upland forests, prairies, grassy glades, and fertile bottomlands. Beneath the shade of magnolias, white oaks and towering pines, the woods came to life with foxes, deer, raccoons, gray squirrels, wild turkeys. But these days of unspoiled wilderness are gone. In their stead are neat rows of slash and loblolly pines, planted to fill a society's ever growing need for lumber. Among these trees the squirrels no longer play, and where are the wolves and bears? They've vanished from the land. (from the introduction to *Land of Bears and Honey*, by Daniel Lay)

Lay was right. East Texas is no longer the "Land of Bears and Honey." The little remaining wilderness is being chewed apart by the Forest Service in unsuccessful efforts to protect pine plantations. While the FS claims to have turned a "barren East Texas land into one of the 'national treasures' of our country," actually for 50 years these "stewards" have raped, scraped, sawed, and mauled some of the most biologically rich lands of North America.

In 1984 they were caught cutting hundreds of acres of newly established Wilderness, for the sake of protecting from the southern pine beetle the pine plantations that surround these tiny islands of diversity. A lawsuit was filed, and they were shaken by the outcry. But in the end they only got their hand slapped. We are still losing pieces of our Wilderness Areas in the name of "pine beetle control."

Recently, the Farced Circus chose the Four Notch Area of the Sam Houston National Forest, once part of a Wilderness proposal, to try (again unsuccessfully) to stop a beetle infestation. Over 3600 acres have been cut in the Four Notch area, with more falling everyday.

The FS's next maneuver here has been to "crush," with a machine as big as a house, what hardwoods and other vegetation remain in the area. There still remain many undamaged hardwoods, some of them 70-90 year old white oaks, sweetgums, hickory, holly, etc. To the FS this is trash, however, and thus they have crushed over 1000 acres, on their way to ravaging over 2500 acres. There have been no steps taken to market the hardwoods or protect wildlife in the area.

So, what is the FS going to do with thousands of acres of crushed debris? NAPALM it!! Helicopters equipped with torches and a petroleum product called Alumagel, a napalm-like substance, are the Forest Service's newest toys for sculpting National Forest into a toilet paper pulp farm! The napalm contract, the cover of which ironically features a picture of Smokey the Bear leaning on a sign saying "Help Prevent Forest Fires," will be awarded October 22 and the torching may occur shortly thereafter, depending on weather conditions and moisture content of the wood. The FS has admitted that "animals will die as a result of the fire," as they burn the areas from the outside inward in concentric circles. But they don't feel that it is "much of a problem."

This is GENE-OCIDE! As scientists around the world proclaim the need to preserve biological diversity in the tropics, we destroy it in our own backyard. Texas EF! is going to stop this sterilizing of our National Forests on October 21. We plan to greet the giant tree crusher at dawn, chained to trees in its path. If necessary, EF!ers will enter the NAPALM FIRE ZONE to protect what diversity remains in the Sam Houston National Forest.

Acre after acre, the FS invites the very infestation that it is combating by replacing biological diversity with monoculture pine plantations. They operate at a deficit to the government and thus to the taxpayer, and to the environment . . . because they are pawns of the timber industry.

The Biological Crossroads of North America are not doomed yet, however. There remain wild areas — hardwood bottomlands, old growth pine stands and bogs that the FS has not reached with its greasy chainsaws.

The battle will not end when they put us in jail. If interested in helping, contact Texas EF! at POB 7292, UT, Austin, TX 78713. You can also drop Forest Supervisor, Mike Lannan, a note about your feelings on the matter at 701 N. First St., Lufkin, TX 75901.

National Forum on Biodiversity: Is Anyone Listening?

by Reed F. Noss

From September 21 to 25, in Washington, DC, the National Academy of Sciences and the Smithsonian Institution sponsored a "National Forum on Biodiversity." On the program were some of the biggest-named VIPs in ecology and conservation biology: Ehrlich, Janzen, Nations, Lovejoy, Myers, Raven, Soule, Wilson, and many more. Even the famous Harvard paleontologist, Stephen Jay Gould, was there to deliver a keynote lecture. Has conservation biology hit the big time?

As participant David Ehrenfeld noted, just 20 or 30 years ago few believed that biological diversity could be endangered in its totality, so a national forum on the topic would have been unthinkable. Today, an "academic cottage industry" has assembled itself to pontificate on the subject; to publish papers in esoteric journals; and to warn the public of the folly of population growth, economic expansion, and habitat destruction. Unquestionably, important things are being said. But is anybody listening? Press coverage of the forum has been almost nonexistent. If an assemblage of this eminence fails to attract people's attention, what will? (EF!ers know the answer: raise more hell!)

The forum line-up was dominated by academic biologists and ecologists, which was appropriate since the objective of the forum was an overview of the current research findings on *what* and *where* is biodiversity, what is its *significance*, how is it *endangered*, and to a somewhat lesser extent, *what can be done to save it*. There were many wondrous stories on intricate biotas and interactions among organisms, tempered by an ever-expanding list of species and ecosystems on the brink of annihilation. Economists and apologists for development were there to give their unsatisfactory side of the story. A few speakers addressed some non-rational and spiritual values of biodiversity. Larry Littlebird offered tribal stories and songs, and Michael McClure recited inspiring poems.

A dominant theme of the forum was that the present extinction crisis is not mainly a problem of over-exploitation of species, but rather of habitat loss and the fragmentation of remaining habitat into ever smaller, more isolated pieces. Where hunting is a problem, for example, it is usually because roads and other forms of habitat fragmentation have made wild areas more accessible. This recognition, however, illustrates the terrestrial bias of most conservation biologists; in the oceans, direct exploitation is still a major problem for whales and many fishes. But habitat destruction, in the form of pollution and siltation, is a problem here as well. Some speakers pointed out that whereas "charismatic megavertebrates" [good name for an EF! rock group] such as tigers, gorillas, and whales receive much public attention, unspectacular and uncuddly species such as many invertebrates, plants, bacteria, and fungi are actually far more important to ecosystem function. But primatologist Russ Mittermeier demonstrated that charismatic megavertebrates can serve as "flagship species" and "umbrella species" to encourage the preservation of whole ecosystems.

Debate continues on the question of how many species now exist on Earth. About 1.6 million species have been described so far, with traditional estimates of the total number of species ranging from 2 to 10 million. Recent studies of the insect fauna of tropical forest canopies place the number far higher. Smithsonian coleopterist Terry Erwin, working in the Amazonian rainforests, reported a few years ago that the earth may contain about 30 million insect species alone. On the basis of further studies, he reported at the forum that he has revised his estimate upwards to 50 million species, most with very localized distributions. A piece of tropical rainforest half the size of a football field contains more than 10,000 species of beetles. E.O. Wilson reported that the ants collected from a single tree on Erwin's study plot in Peru comprised 43 species in 23 genera, which is about the same as the total ant fauna of the British Isles. These new estimates are critical, because they significantly increase the estimated rate of species extinction, most of which is occurring in the t a0opics0B

Tropical rainforests were recognized by most participants as the most endangered ecosystems on Earth, largely because of their high species richness and the rapid rate of destruction (up to 100,000 square kilometers lost each year, with an equal area disturbed by highgrading, limited agriculture, etc.). But some forum participants pointed to other ecosystem types as equally deserving of attention. Ecologist Dan Janzen reported that tropical dry forest originally covered 40-60% of the tropics, much more than rainforest, but most has already been destroyed because it was easier to colonize and cultivate. Only .08% of the dry forest in Central America is currently protected. Temperate ecosystems, which have suffered worse than any others, were discussed by Paul Rissner (prairies) and Jerry Franklin (old growth forests of the Pacific Northwest). These speakers emphasized the need for ecological restoration and a landscape level of focus. Finally, G. Carleton Ray spoke on ecological diversity in oceans and coastal zones. Although terrestrial ecosystems collectively contain more species than the oceans, there are twice as many phyla (basic kinds of biological organization) in the oceans. This fact, together with evidence that coastal zones are being destroyed just as fast as tropical rainforests, suggests that conservationists should pay much more attention to non-terrestrial ecosystems.

The number of species that an ecosystem contains was assumed by most participants to be a measure of its worth, in connection with the utilitarian inclination to treat all species as reservoirs of genetic information of potential use to humans. Hence the emphasis on tropical forests. Several speakers asserted that the loss of genetically distinct populations within species is just as important as species extinction. Others suggested that the loss of characteristic native ecosystems is as important as the loss of species. Harold Mooney and Peter Vitousek both emphasized that the addition of species to ecosystems is as worrisome as losses. The "enrichment" of floras usually represents invasion by disturbance-adapted, weedy species. When cosmopolitan invaders replace endemics, or come to dominate the flora or fauna, the net result is homogenization of biotas and a loss of global diversity. I was particularly glad to see this increasing recognition of scale problems in the preservation of diversity (see *EF!*, Litha 86, p.20).

A particularly pernicious talk was by Ariel Lugo of the US Forest Service. Lugo stressed the "resiliency" of ecosystems to human abuse and the need for "scientific credibility" in estimating deforestation and extinction rates. He suggested, on the basis of guesswork, that no more than 9% of species will be lost by the turn of the century from tropical deforestation. He then repeated the misleading statistic that although Puerto Rico lost over 90% of its forest, it lost only about 20% of its species. Aside from the holistic recognition that the loss of forest ecosystem integrity is at least as significant as a decline in species richness *per se*, Lugo fails to consider that many existing species on Puerto Rico are long-lived but present in small numbers, and therefore on the road to extinction. Small population size predisposes species to extinction due to inbreeding depression, and demographic and environmental stochasticity. The fact that relatively few species have been lost from Puerto Rico so far is also related to the relatively brief period of deforestation on the island, with rapid secondary succession in the hurricane-adapted forests. Because recent diversity increases on Puerto Rico are due to an influx of exotics, a continued loss of *native* diversity is likely. Lugo prefers to err on the side of destruction rather than on the side of preservation, which is especially dangerous in light of the Forest Service's disastrous management plan for the Caribbean National Forest, the only tropical forest in the National Forest system. (This despicable plan, which designates 21% of the forest as suitable for intensive commercial timber production, has been appealed by a coalition of 12 local and national conservation groups. Lugo's position as Supervisory Research Ecologist for the Forest Circus in Puerto Rico is an affront to the ecological profession.)

Illustration by Robert Goldstrom, design by Grafik Communications, Ltd., Courtesy of Smithsonian Institution.

Other low-quality talks were by Nyle Brady of the Agency for International Development and Lennart Ljungman of the World Bank. Both speakers served as apologists for their agencies, and obfuscated critical issues with a tangle of technicalities recited in fluent bureaucratese. Brady noted that AID has opposed the biodiversity bills pending in Congress because AID in principle is against any earmarking of funds, which restricts its "flexibility" (i.e. its ability to rape Nature). Although Brady claimed that AID is improving its economic analyses to consider the long-term costs of development activities, and is interested in alternatives to non-sustainable agriculture, he could not offer a coherent explanation of why AID has withdrawn money from planned parenthood activities in developing countries. The inconsistency of developing sustainable agriculture while failing to promote population control did not seem to trouble Brady.

In contrast Ljungman's shallow talk on World Bank programs, Robert Goodland (the World Bank's sole ecologist) offered hope that change in that menacing agency is possible — but only if vigilant environmentalists insist on it. The new World Bank "Wildland Policy" states that the Bank will "normally" decline to finance projects involving conversion of wildlands of special concern (officially designated areas or unprotected areas recognized by the scientific and conservation communities), will prefer projects to be sited on lands already converted, will allow deviations from the above only with explicit justification, will encourage biotic surveys to determine which wildlands are most valuable so that less valuable wildlands will be converted (when justified), will require compensation by wildlands management components whenever significant conversion of wildlands is explicitly justified, and will consider projects that preserve wildlands for their environmental value alone.

In other words, governments will now be able to borrow money from the World Bank explicitly for conservation projects, and the Bank can refuse loans for projects that do not meet the conservation criteria. There are a lot of potential loopholes in the wildland policy, and the justification is entirely anthropocentric, but at least now environmentalists have something to go on. Goodland emphasized that environmentalists must keep an eye on the Bank, and that "the best way to change an institution is to force it to abide by its own rules." He condoned all types of environmental action in behalf of wildlands (in a talk I heard him present last summer at the International Congress of Ecology, he even spoke favorably of Earth First! and monkeywrenching as necessary "extremes" in the conservation movement). Let us continue our vigilance on the World Bank, and hope that Goodland is able to keep his job.

Technological approaches to conservation and restoration ecology were discussed. Most participants recognized that ex-situ conservation (zoos, botanical gardens, etc.) and biotechnology (captive propagation and associated reproductive technologies, and reintroduction programs) are no solution to the biodiversity crisis, and are at best a palliative or short-term expediency. Tom Cade discussed the successful Eastern Peregrine Falcon reintroduction program where there have been 83 known nestings of reintroduced birds since 1979, and included slides of the "kinky" technique of training male Peregrines to mate with a special hat worn by the researcher, thus donating sperm for artificial insemination.

Restoration ecology, similarly, was seen not as a "don't worry about, we can fix it" discipline, but rather as a technique to restore damaged land-

scapes, and to restore a healthy relationship between humans and nature. Bill Jordan (editor of *Restoration & Management Notes*) suggested that restoration is truly a ritual and a sacrament of re-entry into nature. Joy Zedler noted that restoration, as abused in mitigation projects, is often unsuccessful; the net effect is a continuing decline in habitat area and quality. Dan Janzen commented that recovery from human disturbance may take a very long time. In tropical forests, for example, an experienced field biologist would have trouble distinguishing a secondary forest 500-1000 years old from a primary forest never cleared by humans; but computer models suggest that 7000-15,000 years may be required to get a stable age distribution of tree species.

The mass extinctions that have occurred periodically in Earth's history are cited by some as evidence that what humans are doing now to biodiversity is natural and of no great consequence in the long term. David Raup noted that the mass extinction at the end of the Paleozoic Era (Permian Period), when the continents coalesced 230 million years ago, extinguished 77-96% of all species then existing. The extinction of the dinosaurs, likely caused by an asteroid or meteor striking Earth, was at the end of the Mesozoic Era (Cretaceous Period) 65 million years ago, and extinguished 60-80% of all species. The current extinction crisis is expected to be similar in magnitude to the Cretaceous extinction (barring a radical change in human behavior), but will affect a greater total number of species because more species exist now.

The aftermath of each previous mass extinction was a relatively short period (a few million years) of low diversity, *followed by a rapid return to pre-extinction levels, with major evolutionary innovations.* Can we expect the same recovery after the present wave of extinctions? Most participants were pessimistic. For one thing, the previous extinction events apparently did not affect a large number of plant species, but plant diversity is now declining sharply. Bob Peters pointed out that climatic changes caused by increased carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, combined with habitat fragmentation that prevents species migration in response to changing environments, is likely to generate a long-term depression in diversity. Furthermore, Janzen noted that humans are unlikely to give the planet back after the current round of extinctions. Only if *Homo sapiens* is extinguished along with the other species (or, perhaps, adopts a lifestyle concordant with deep ecology) will Earth have much of a chance to recover.

Was deep ecology in evidence at the forum? On the face of it, not much. The focus was predominantly on the uses of biodiversity, or on "environmental services," rather than on intrinsic or inherent values in nature. James Nations spoke favorably of deep ecology, but noted that the philosophy runs into trouble in places where humans are also on the edge of life, the dilemma of "deep ecology meets the developing world." My response to Nations would be, no, I would not like to tell the campesino that he cannot exploit the rainforest to feed his 12 starving kids. But I would even less like to see the rainforest destroyed by millions of campesinos in the same predicament. Besides, simple scenarios of this sort do not get to the heart of the issue. *Homo sapiens* is more endangering than endangered. To the extent that an individual relies on modern technology (including modern medicine and pesticides, which have made population explosions so common), s/he has a responsibility to demonstrate restraint in reproduction and resource use. Hard decisions will have to made, but they must be made with regard to Earth over any particular component, especially when the component is as warped in its relationship to other beings as is modern humanity.

Although utilitarian arguments for preserving biodiversity were the mode of the forum, I sensed that most of the speakers (at least the ecologists) were ultimately motivated by deep concerns. These people are in love with Nature (see E.O. Wilson's book, *Biophilia*) and have dedicated their lives to understanding Nature. Paul Ehrlich, for example, spoke largely in terms of environmental services provided by natural systems, but often prefaced his arguments with something like "the anthropocentric justification for preserving these functions is . . ." Moreover, Ehrlich commented that the "fundamental problem is to create a fundamental, quasi-religious respect for the earth," and that we cannot focus only on practical problems.

Perhaps most speakers felt obliged to resort to utilitarian arguments in order to catch the attention of non-believers. They may be right. But at least one speaker insisted that economic arguments are counter-productive, and in the long run will make matters worse. David Ehrenfeld (author of *The Arrogance of Humanism*) declared that "by assigning value to biodiversity, we are justifying the trends that wipe it out." Ehrenfeld said that the economic argument has had its chance, and must be replaced by a model that is not self-contradictory. He recommended that conservationists mobilize the passions and accept the "inherent wrongness" of destroying biodiversity. Christian theologian John Cobb declared that "the abandonment by humans of our responsibility as stewards and the destruction of whole species for short-term gains is a crime against the Creator." In the conference summary, geneticist Michael Soule (a former director of the Kuroda Institute at the Zen Center in Los Angeles, and a follower of deep ecology) commented that most of the information presented at the forum entered the neocortex, but we must get to a much deeper level of understanding. He cited Arne Naess, saying that what is needed is "leadership by those who are able and willing to express their spontaneous experience of nature."

One significant implication of the forum is that more and more academic scientists are becoming angry enough about the loss of biodiversity to speak eloquently in its defense. But all recognized that many more scientists need to get involved. The reward system in science still discriminates against those who "sacrifice credibility" by addressing issues of policy or ethics. The only scientists who get away with it are those well established as objective professionals. As I have experienced personally, young scientists who step beyond objectivity or show radical tendencies have a difficult time obtaining grants and jobs. Michael Robinson and Jerry Franklin emphasized that more academic recognition must go to natural historians and those actively working in conservation, versus those who spend their time publishing papers on esoteric biological phenomena.

So what do the eminent biologists of this forum suggest we do to save biodiversity? Some degree of optimism is probably essential to action. As Ehrlich put it (paraphrased), "if I thought it was hopeless, I wouldn't be here — I'd be home drinking." Ehrlich said we must drastically limit human population and the scale of human activities, make areas already occupied by people more habitable to other organisms, convince the developing countries through exemplary behavior that we care about the problem, and assure that people are better educated about how the world works (i.e., increase ecological literacy). Though all this might seem impractical, nothing could be more impractical than the course we're on.

Participants agreed that many short-term solutions are already practical — such as enlarged parks, restoration and reintroduction programs, and pollution control — but that governmnets are not supplying the necessary money. Nor are individuals. Bill Burley noted that Americans contribute $80 billion each year to charities, with $39 billion going to churches alone. The fact that we are not contributing anything close to that for conservation is a sad reflection of our understanding of real world problems. Some speakers, such as botanist Hugh Iltis, did not hesitate to blame particular individuals in powerful positions, such as Reagan and the Pope. James Lovelock, originator of the Gaia theory, spoke of the "three deadly C's: combustion, cattle, and chainsaws" which threaten the future existence of the Earth Organism. He emphasized that Gaia theory is not humanistic, that we are just a part of the organism we call Earth. But unless we recognize the necessity of global altruism, evolved as it did out of local selfish interest, the homeostatic mechanisms of Earth may be strained beyond their capacity to recover. Again, there was a strong undercurrent of deep ecological understanding in this talk. But is anybody listening? Perhaps if the entire congregation of the forum would have marched down to the White House, and . . .

Reed Noss is an ecologist living in Florida who regularily writes for us. We thank Reed for attending the conference on behalf of Earth First!, and sending us this report.

Washington Earth First! outside Forest Service Regional HQ in Portland. Photo by Mitch Friedman.

Earth First! Digs In in Washington

by Mitch Friedman and Lizzie Zemke

This has been a year of growth for the Washington Earth First! network; growth in numbers, commitment and influence. This rapid increase in EF! presence could not have been more timely, as several critical issues are being decided in the Northwest now.

The Second Annual Earth First! Cascadia Crest Regional Rendezvous, held near the Little Naches River in the highlands of the Wenatchee National Forest over Labor Day weekend, focused on these issues. Sixty EF!ers, from the Olympics to the Dumpsite, from the Willamette Valley to the North Cascades came to plan and celebrate Earth First! and life. Mr. Budworm presented the EF! alternative to the Wenatchee Forest Plan, proposing that we close the roads and let the (now absent) Grizzlies, Wolves, Wolverines and Spotted Owls "come home." Callies and Coulter talked about acid rain. Lisa and Guy discussed Hanford issues. Crockett lamented the plight of the small farmer. Billy Goat talked about sex (as usual), and George asked for money. The highlight of the weekend was supplied by the bards, Dana Lyons and Harry Levine. A traditional Mexican dance number is now a song of freedom — "Burn That Dozer."

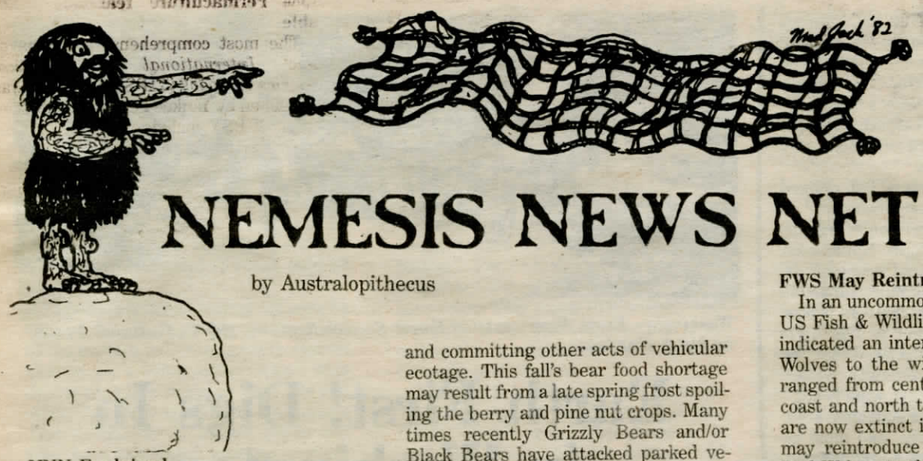
Probably the most important issue in the Northwest now, and that which was the focus of the most discussion at the 2AEF!CCRR, is the Spotted Owl. Public comment on the Regional Guide SEIS — which will determine the fate of the Northern Spotted Owl, our last stands of old growth forest, and more than 200 other species which depend on this disappearing ecosystem to survive — is due by November 17. Our job is to force the Forest Service to present a final draft which saves *all* of what little old growth remains in Washington, Oregon and northern California; and not for backpackers or fishermen, but for itself and Earth. Earth First! To make our point, we decided to target the Forest Service Regional offices in Portland for civil disobedience immediately after the Rendezvous.

Tuesday morning, more than 20 EF!ers marched down the streets of Portland singing "Smokey the Ursus Ranger" and "I Don't Know Where I'm Agonna Go When the Old Growth is Gone." Then, while most of us performed guerilla theatre in front of the Headquarters, two of our group slunk off and hung a giant banner reading "SPOTTED OWL BLOOD ON SMOKEY'S PAWS" from a balcony inside the building. After the banner was confiscated (we later retrieved it), we proceeded in a Spotted Owl funeral wake, complete with coffin and pallbearers, up to the Regional Forester's office. There, we disrupted business for two hours, insisting that a representative enter into dialogue with us. Our goal: to get them to admit in front of press, in simple terms, what the 400 page SEIS states in ambiguous jargon — that the Spotted Owl is going extinct due to habitat loss from logging, and that the Forest Service will not change its direction to save it. As expected, no spokesass came forth, as the bastards all hid in their office alcove. Several of our group then tried civil disobedience to emphasize our stance. Consistent with new Regional direction, however, no arrests were made (this tactic is obviously intended to reduce the news value of an action). Our ecotypes tried everything, including blockading the office door and taking over the FS Public Information office, but to no avail. Ironically, our most zealous protester, Brian Berry, went to incredible extremes, including trying to steal a small tree with the advertised intent of replanting it on a National Forest road, but couldn't get busted. Yet one week earlier, at the Hell's Canyon hearing in La Grande, Oregon, Brian's father, Jack, was arrested for not "doing anything."

So as the battle over the Spotted Owl escalates, with the FS getting smarter and changing tactics, we too must be more creative and change our tactics. But the issues are being continually complicated by additional influences, mainly from Oregon's senior Senator, Mark (Ohhh) Hatfield. It is Hatfield, with Idaho Senator James McClure and Oregon Representative Les AuCoin, who is throwing his power into increasing the FS roadbuilding budget, demanding more money than even the Reagan Administration requested! Hatfield is even trying to stipulate a budgetary priority for roads going into presently unroaded areas. It was Hatfield who squashed the Hell's Canyon Wilderness Bill, and it is Hatfield who is trying to add riders to an appropriations bill which would 1) exempt all "buy-back" sales from any additional (updated) environmental review and 2) exempt existing land management plans from all environmental laws other than NFMA (thereby removing all incentive for the FS to finalize Forest Plans). It is Hatfield who the mainstream groups fear will backlash against any successful Spotted Owl lawsuit with another of his famous riders. This frothing fundamentalist is on a biblical rampage to further human dominion on our ailing planet. He's using his senior status and power to circumvent all the checks and balances of our lopsided system. By attaching riders onto unrelated bills, Hatfield prevents open debate of his pet whims. In this way he has previously exempted entire BLM (Medford, OR) and FS (Mapleton, OR) Districts from any judicial review or conformity with 20 years of progress in environmental legislation. Hatfield uses his antinuclear stance as a smokescreen to hide his otherwise completely anti-environment politics. We have identified the enemy and he must be stopped!

These are the issues we confront in Washington. They will be part of our message in our statewide roadshow this winter. We can sure use more support. Checks made out to Earth First! are fine. Our address is Box 95316, Seattle 98145.

WHERE TO WRITE: SEIS comment: PNW Regional Forester, USDA FS, 319 SW Pine - Box 3623, Portland, OR 97208. Senators to be enlightened on forest issues: Mark Hatfield, Slade Gorton, James McClure; US Senate, Wash., DC 20510. Dangerous Rep's: Les AuCoin, Sid Morrison: House of Representatives, Wash., DC 20515.



NEMESIS NEWS NET

by Australopithecus

NNN Explained

Some have wondered from whence cometh the title "Nemesis News Net." Edith Hamilton's classic book, *Mythology*, helps explain the significance of this title. 'Net', of course, is a word redolent with meaning in Western cultures and (translated) in Hindu mythology, as in the famous net of Indra. 'Nemesis' is less well understood. Edith Hamilton refers to it on pages 37 and 88: She speaks of one of "two personified emotions esteemed highest of all feelings in Homer and Hesiod: NEMESIS, usually translated as Righteous Anger . . ." "The great goddess Nemesis" is the one who punished Narcissus for his failure to love anything other than himself.

Regarding the content of NNN, unless we are told to do otherwise by our readers, we will in the future usually leave general environmental news to other environmental periodicals to report. We will focus more on the obscure, the bizarre, and the sordid; less on the mundane, the commonplace, and the insipid. General environmental news is extremely important, as is letter-writing on behalf of general environmental issues, but we suspect that most of our readers are already getting this news from mainstream publications. For excellent sources of general environmental news we recommend the following periodicals: *Sierra Club National News Report*, 730 Polk St., S.F., CA 94109 ($15/yr); *Audubon Activist*, 950 Third Ave, NY, NY 10022 ($6/yr); *Earth Island Journal*, 13 Columbus Ave., S.F., CA 94111 ($15/yr); *High Country News*, Box 1090, Paonia, CO 81428 ($20/yr); *Suara Sam*, SAM, 37, Lorong Birch, 10250 Penang, MALAYSIA ($30/yr). In future issues, we will try to cite sources for our news items.

CA Assembly Speaker Excoriates Coors

The speaker of the California Assembly, Willie Brown, has harshly criticized the Adoph Coors Company due to Coors' *New Horizons* magazine using a photo of Brown to promote Coors. Coors published on the cover of its magazine a picture of the California Democratic leader and placed a Coors logo above the picture while claiming to have been co-sponsoring the AFRAM Festival where the photo was taken. After Coors' misleading use of the photo, the coordinator of the AFL-CIO Coors Boycott (Dave Sickler) said, "If you can get two cockroaches to race, Coors will show up with T-shirts and sponsor it. They will try to rip off any celebrity or public figure who gets near them by implying that Coors products are being endorsed."

Great Salt Lake Has Fish!

Reliable sources — not simply more Mormons on morphine — report that with the Great Salt Lake's record high water levels from record high precipitation, the salinity of the lake has dropped enough to allow fish to move into in it. The lake has risen 11 feet in four years and salinity has fallen from 28% in the '60s to 4% now (ocean salinity is 2.5-3%). The lake normally has brine shrimp, algae, and bacteria; but no fish. It now has at least 10,000 rainwater killiefish — one inch long salt-tolerant fish which may have migrated from Timpie Springs Wildlife Management Area.

Bears Slash Tires

Bears in Wyoming this fall face an unusual shortage of food, and perhaps as a result (although doubtless partly as a means of protest against their oppression by callous anthropocentrists) have begun chewing tires of parked cars and committing other acts of vehicular ecotage. This fall's bear food shortage may result from a late spring frost spoiling the berry and pine nut crops. Many times recently Grizzly Bears and/or Black Bears have attacked parked vehicles in Sunlight Basin and elsewhere. In Sunlight Basin, a 500 pound Grizzly has smashed windshields, crushed roofs, ravaged car seats, broken and entered campers . . . already costing thousands of dollars for the owners of these wretched heaps. There were at least seven incidents of tire slashing by bears on Grinnell Creek in one week. Bears have also defended their land in the Montana's Beartooth Mountains by ripping apart vehicles. Sadly, hunger is driving these Grizzly and Black Bears near the misplaced towns of Cody, West Yellowstone, Jackson, Frannie, Lovell, and Cooke City; and there have been several bear relocations and at least two Grizzly murders and two Black Bear murders in recent months in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. (sources: Yellowstone area papers; *High Country News*, Oct.13)

Sea World Violates Water Laws

For the last 10 years San Diego Sea World has discharged chlorine into Mission Bay, California, in violation of its waste-discharge permit. This comes as particularly infuriating news in view of the fact that aquariums, like zoos, are already notorious for capturing rare wild animals and killing many in the process and enslaving the rest. The California Regional Water Quality Control Board has warned Sea World 18 consecutive months that it is dumping illegally high levels of chlorine into Mission Bay, yet Sea World has said in response that the bay is already so polluted that their added pollutants are insignificant. The ecological effects of chlorine are unknown but tests suggest that chlorine stunts growth and/or reproduction or kills microscopic marine plants and animals, mussels, and bottom-dwelling worms. This sordid issue brings to mind potential protests: gathering tons of fish entrails from fish packing plants and strategically placing them before the doors of Sea World while demanding a halt to the poisoning of Mission Bay's fish, donning costumes of mussels and bottom-dwelling worms to carry placards and slither in protest, etc. Shut down Sea World; save the bottom-dwelling worm!

Boss Scolds Lower Freddies for Uncut Sales

James Overbay (appropriate nicknames for whom might include James Overbearing or Overburden, etc.), Regional Forester of the Northwest Region of the Forest Service, recently sent a letter of distress to his Forest Supervisors — with a copy sent to the Inland Forest Resource Council, a timber industry group. This letter exemplifies the Freddies' warped attitudes toward forests. The following is a portion of this epistolary classic:

I have just reviewed the mid year Periodic Timber Sale Accomplishment Report. It indicates that the total accomplishment of volume offered for the Region is 321 MMBF [million board feet], *or 32% of the FY 86 Regional target of 1005 MMBF. Of the credited volume offered, 114 MMBF (35%) was offered but not sold; 43 MMBF of the unsold volume is tied up in appeals.* [ed. note: EF! is responsible for about 25 such appeals in his region.] *This mid year measure of our Regional performance concerns me a great deal. It is unsatisfactory in two respects: failure to meet our mid year offered volume and the extremely large percentage of unsold sales. . . . Between now and the end of the year I expect that each Forest will meet their FY 86 volume targets. . . .*

FWS May Reintroduce Red Wolves

In an uncommonly good gesture, the US Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) has indicated an interest in returning Red Wolves to the wild. Red Wolves once ranged from central Texas to the east coast and north to the Ohio Valley, but are now extinct in the wild. The FWS may reintroduce 12 of the 63 captive Red Wolves to the Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge in North Carolina. Aaaooooooo!!

KY's Cave Shrimp Dying

Kentucky — long a center of the nonmovement toward universal lethargy, inertia, and indolence — may soon regret its apathy. The magnificent Cave Shrimp — unique to the streams in Mammoth Caves — is disappearing due to excessive human visitation and water pollution. It would not be remiss for Kentucky and Ohio EF!ers to publicize this resplendent creature's tragic plight by picketing in front of Mammoth Cave National Park headquarters, and presenting to Park Service officials vile vials of the pollutants that enter cave streams, while attired in Cave Shrimp outfits. A hint to you costume makers: the Cave Shrimp is eyeless, spineless, transparent, and has wavy antennae and spindly legs. (Sounds like our President with a Walkman set!)

More Renegade Elephants Stampede

Elephant rebellions continue to increase as humans continue to poach & encroach upon elephants and their habitat. Both species of elephant — Indian and African — survive in drastically reduced numbers, but it appears to be Indian Elephants who have become most disgruntled at the powers that oppress them. The latest Indian Elephant uprisings include the trampling of a logging company boss near Sungai Siput, Malaysia; the stampeding of nine villages in northern Sumatra, Indonesia; and the crushing of 65 houses in southern Sumatra. The Malaysian uprising occurred when the timber executive and three other men entered wild elephant territory. A herd charged them, allowing the less guilty three to escape, but stomping the boss into the dust in disgust. One Indonesian insurrection occurred when oil company helicopters and explosions so enraged a herd of 40 that they charged through an electric fence out of their nature reserve and ran amok through villages, scattering (but not hurting) residents and crushing buildings. The other Sumatran conflict happened when a herd of nine — whose formerly rich habitat now suffers from human overuse — grew hungry and spent four consecutive nights feasting on banana and rice crops in three villages and holding at bay the crop growers by crushing their houses. Some biologists fear that, as happened last year, the Indonesian army will be deployed to quell the elephant insurgencies.

Creatures Rebel in Moscow

Moscow has not been troubled by renegade elephants. It has, however, faced numerous other dissidents — wild boars, badgers, martens, elk, deer and other forest creatures who are taking their cause (protection of their homes) to the streets. One "440 pound boar" (reminds one of a wealthy Republican) bowled over five pedestrians near Red Square. Another boar scattered commuters at the Rechnoy Vokzal subway station, but did not gain admission onto the train.

Letters

Addresses include: US Senators, US Senate, Washington, DC 20510; US Representatives, US House of Representatives, Wash., DC 20515.

*J.C. (what presumptuous initials!) Penney, a General Motors subsidiary (EDS Financial Corp.) and Tucson Electric plan to fund the Upper SOFAR project (dam, pipelines, powerhouses, reservoir, etc. on the Upper South Fork of the American River) i0i00El Dorado County California. Due to the pro-development federal G0ax structure, the companies would gain investment tax credit and accelerated depreciation tax write-offs for their investment. Penney's has said they'd not fund the project if local opposition arises. Protest Penney's involvement to: HR Howell, Chairman and CEO, J.C. Penney, 1301 Ave of the Americas, NY, NY 10019 (212-957-4321). For info, contact Friends of the River, 909 12th St. Suite 207, Sacramento, CA 95814.

*Japan, Taiwan and the Republic of Korea continue to inadvertently kill marine mammals and sea birds — perhaps over a million total each year — with their driftnets; while advertently killing millions salmon, squid, marlin and other fish. Write William G. Gordon (Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, US Dept. of Commerce, Wash., DC 20235) urging him not to reissue the permit allowing Japanese fishers to incidentally kill Dall Porpoises while driftnet fishing in US waters. Send copies of your letter to senators and representatives.

*The fate of Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge will soon be determined by Congress and the US Fish & Wildlife Service. Industries aim to rape the refuge's coastal plain for petroleum and other resources. Ask representatives and senators and strengthen and support Representative Udall's bill to designate as Wilderness 1.5 million acres of the refuge. Tell them that no mineral development in Arctic NWR is acceptable.

*Write to US representatives asking that they press for passage of HR 5262, a bill to establish the Bayou Sauvage Urban National Wildlife Refuge (in wetlands east of New Orleans). Ask senators to introduce and pass companion legislation to HR 5262, so that this rare 19,000 acres — of forested bottomlands, fresh and brackish and salt marshes, ponds, and bayous — can be preserved.

*The House has approved a bill to protect a 30 mile stretch of Arizona's San Pedro River. The bill to designate the San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area includes an amendment to ban cattle grazing in the area for 15 years. In the Senate, Malcolm Wallop (R-WY) killed the bill in his subcommittee because he doesn't like its restriction on grazing. Write senators asking them to reintroduce and support the Senate equivalent of the House bill, but with an amendment to ban livestock.

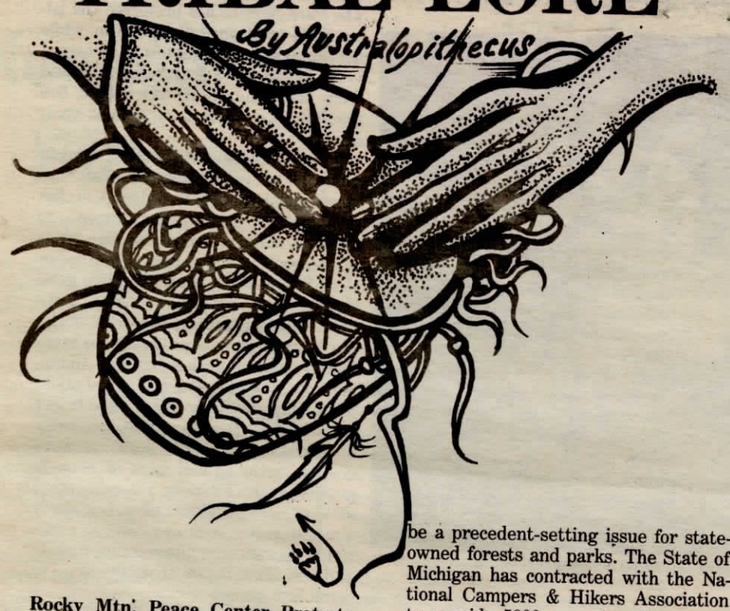
Seed Reports Ecotage in Asia

The following news is drawn from the report by our Australian contact, John Seed, of Australia's Rainforest Information Centre, on the "Forest Resources Crisis in the Third World" conference (in Sept. in Malaysia). John Seed and Randy Hayes, two of our best rainforest activists, attended this conference.

Now that peninsular Malaysia is about to run out of timber (1990 at current rates of destruction), the pressure is on Sarawak and Sabah. So far little work has been done in Sabah, but in Sarawak, SAM [Friends of the Earth Malaysia] *has been organizing for years with tribal groups who have independently been opposing the logging. . . . From*[a member of the Kayan tribe] *I learned that some Maruti people got a job for a timber company for a month and at the end of that time drove dozers off a cliff. Soil and other foreign bodies* [of Weyerhaeuser executives perhaps?] *appeared regularly in fuel tanks, and other direct action is a regular occurrence. Some tribals have been arrested and jailed.* [A tribal] *group (with the help of SAM) has a legal action in progress against the loggers in the Malaysian Supreme Court. Punan land has been felled, burial sites and wild foods destroyed. In response, tribals burnt workers' quarters and huts and threatened to shoot them with blowpipes if they proceeded. In some places this has succeeded in keeping the loggers out for the present. A few members of the longhouse tribes were imprisoned for criminal intimidation and unlawfully restraining the timber companies.*

Generally speaking, the mood of the Malaysians was radical. Mohd. Idris, the impressive president of SAM, praised the brave people of Phuket in Thailand, 50,000 of whom last June destroyed a $90 million tantalum refinery polluting their island.

TRIBAL LORE



Rocky Mtn. Peace Center Protests NTS

While the Soviets continue their unilateral moratorium on nuclear bomb testing, and Reagan refuses to join the moratorium, a small number of Americans are trying to force the US to join. In Congress, the House passed a resolution which, if adopted by the full Congress, would stop funds for testing of nuclear bombs above one kiloton so long as the USSR maintained its moratorium and provided that verification was in effect. Meanwhile, peace activists, as a continuation of the Nevada Test Site protests (the most exciting of which was described in Mike Roselle's riveting account in Lughnasadh 86) will try to have people on the test site at all times "to protest and possibly prevent all future tests." A key group ogranizing this, Rocky Mountain Peace Center, will provide information. Write to them at POB 1156, Boulder, CO 80306-1156 or call 303-444-6981. Stopping bombing at the NTS is critical: when we don't blow up little Micronesian islands uninhabited — except for wildlife and native peoples — Nevada is the place we explode our bombs; England also does its testing at the Nevada Site.

ALF Publishes *Front Line News*

Animal Liberation Front Support Group, the public arm of the Canadian branch of the most radical (and mostly underground) international animal rights group, now publishes an informative and exciting newsletter called *Front Line News*. It is available for a minimum donation of $10 a year from ALFSG, PO Box 915, Station F, Toronto, Ont. M4Y 2N9, CANADA. As a sample of *Front Line's* reports of ALF's actions, we quote from their #3 issue:

"Toronto - April, 1986 Van belonging to Victory Furs had its tyres slashed, was spraypainted with words, 'SCUM', 'MURDERERS', and 'ALF". Windscreen wipers were bent and the windscreen was smashed. Locks glued and windows defaced with glass-cutters at Weissman Furs, Frankel Furs and Furs by Finn.

"Australia: July - December, 1985 Numerous attacks on fur shops, sheepskin shops and gunshops. Again, locks were glued and stores were covered in graffiti. Vivisection labs covered with graffiti."

UT Coalition Wants Wilderness EIS Redone

"The Utah Wilderness Coalition (UWC) today [Aug.15] asked the Bureau of Land Management to rewrite its draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) on Utah wilderness and submit it again for public comment." This is especially significant in that the UWC is moderate. They proposed only 5.1 million acres of Utah BLM wilderness, whereas EF! proposed 16 plus million acres (see Litha 86).

HRDF Defends MI State Land

The Highland Recreation Defense Foundation is a non-profit organization combatting the environmental deterioration of the Highland Recreation Area and other state-owned lands. We wish to alert readers in Michigan to what may be a precedent-setting issue for state-owned forests and parks. The State of Michigan has contracted with the National Campers & Hikers Association to provide 5000 campsites for recreational vehicles for their "Campvention," to be held in July of 88. The site chosen is the Highland Recreation Area in White Lake Township, in northwestern Oakland County. Highland Rec. Area is only 50 miles northwest of Detroit, yet comprises almost 6000 acres of virtual wilderness. Due in part to a 1954 study by the Natural Areas Council of Michigan the area has been left alone so that natural ecological succession would take place. The NAC completed a study of environmentally sensitive areas, and placed Highland Rec. #3 on that list behind the much larger tracts of land that make up the Porcupine Mountains and Tahquamenon Falls state parks in Michigan's upper peninsula.

For this Campvention, the DNR estimates that 33-35,000 trees must be cut, along with the creation of many miles of gravel loop roads that can handle 22 foot motor homes. The area's wetland/marsh areas will not be given proper buffer protection. To stop this destruction, we have filed suit in Oakland County Circuit Court with our main contentions being: 1. That the parks Master Plan has been violated. 2. That the DNR entered into a contract with a group that is ineligible to enter into such a contract. 3. Because the work being done to the park is labeled "temporary," the DNR has been able to bypass the necessity of an Environmental Impact Study. So far, the usual groups (Sierra Club, Audubon, etc.) apparently have not felt the weight that will be placed on unspoiled federal and state land if we should lose this precedent setting case.

People can help by sending a tax-deductible donation to: Highland Recreation Defense Foundation, POB 375, Union Lake, MI 48085. Letters should be sent to: Governor James Blanchard, Rep. Claud Trim, and Sen. Richard Fessler, all at State Capitol, Lansing, MI 48909.

Earth Care Sells Recycled Paper

The Earth Care Paper Company is an ecology-oriented business that sells recycled paper products. Owned by Carol and John Magee, this family operation exists to "save trees and energy, reduce air and water pollution, and promote a sustainable society." Their catalog offers recycled products for personal and business use, including stationary, notecards, xerocopy, computer, poster, and "minimum impact" paper (the most ecological paper produced in America). Order the catalog from: Earth Care Paper Company, 325 - 114 Beech Lane, Harbor Springs, MI 49740.

Bioregional Project Seeks Participants

Bioregional Earth Stewardship (BES) aims to reverse the current world-wide ecological situation. Thanks to Thomas Berry's lucid articulation of bioregionalism, we understand that a natural balanced bioregion is a self-governing, self-sustaining, economically sound community of interdependent life systems. Project BES addresses the full range of basic human and planetary needs. Here is how the system works. To unify individuals within a given watershed, an association of land owners and land users forms an ecologically-sound master plan. This plan becomes the basis of a stewardship agreement that will be entered into with political interests within that region. The local association becomes the governing body of that region. Project BES tries to place as many small tracts of land as possible under the stewardship of single families, then gives these stewards the guidance, means and tools to develop a self-sufficient living center.

Project BES intends to establish working models of reconstructed, decentralized watersheds, in strategic areas around the world, as models for other watersheds to follow. These working models will become hands-on training grounds for that general region. The Pacific Basin was the first area chosen for Project BES. Luzon Island in the Philippines was targeted as the key to the southeast Asian area. This area is critical because of its devastated tropical rainforest and its high human population density. In the Pacific Northwest, the Williams watershed in southern Oregon has been targeted as a region typical of forest mismanagement that has depleted ground water throughout the valley farming community. American Indian Reservations are also being targeted for BES projects. For info, write: World Earth Stewardship Foundation, 73073 Sunvalley Dr., 29 Palms, CA 92277.

APPEN Publishes Bhopal Report

The Bhopal Tragedy — One Year After has just been released. This book was compiled by the Asia-Pacific Peoples' Environment Network (APPEN) in an effort to incite internati0'n 0l con0emnation of transnational corporations who put profit before lives. APPEN says that "the Bhopal disaster clearly manifests the true reality of most Third World industrialization programs whereby large, helpless populations have to submit to occupational hazards and degraded environments at and around workplaces because their leaders continue to feel that western technology and methods are the only answer to their basic needs. For a copy of this important report, send $8 to EF! in Tucson.

***Bear News* Reports on Trichinosis**

A recent issue of the excellent periodical *Bear News* (published by the Great Bear Foundation, POB 2699, Missoula, MT 59806) includes an article by Lance Olsen entitled "Bears, Pork, People and Trichinosis." The following is quoted from that fine article:

Trichinosis is the name of a disease in humans and animals. It is caused when body tissues are invaded by the larval stage of a tiny parasitical worm, Trichinella. Bears, domestic pigs and people are all susceptible to trichinosis and humans may acquire it by eating the flesh of pigs or bears. Researchers have suggested other possible links between bears, pork and people, including a possibility that trichinosis in bears may provoke aggressive bear attacks on people. . . .

Olsen goes on to explain that, fortunately, the strain of Trichinella found in bears does not appear to readily transfer to pigs. This is good news considering that ranchers and government officials might otherwise latch upon the trichinosis danger as an excuse to kill bears.

Conferences

Beyond Boundaries: Restoring Region-wide Ecosystems; a one day conference featuring Reed Noss and George Wuerthner; Nov. 15, 1986, from 9AM to 6 PM at the University Memorial Center, Room 235, on the CU Boulder Campus. Register at door for $8 (free for CU students). Thursday and Friday before the conference, George will present slides at 7PM in Geology 121 ($2).

Tropical Rainforests: Strategies for Wise Management; a four day conference, Feb. 5-8, 1987 on the CU Boulder campus, featuring David Brower, Catherine Caufield, Bruce Rich, Jim Nations, Charles Secrett, Randy Hayes, Judy Gradwohl, etc. Registration fees are $15 per day or $30 for all four days ($30 and $60 for representatives of organizations). For more info on both these conferences, contact the CU Environmental Center, UMC 331, Campus Box 207, U of CO, Boulder, CO 80309; 303-492-8308.

1986 Permaculture Yearbook Available

The most comprehensive edition of *The International Permaculture Species Yearbook* (TIPSY) recently was published by Yankee Permaculture. The latest TIPSY includes articles on wetlands Permaculture, the farm debt, tree seeds, philosophical considerations in a Permaculture lifestyle, an index of 1000 useful plants, a "green pages' listing of 1000 organizations, and more. Order from Yankee Permaculture, POB 202, Orange, MA 01364; $12.50 til Dec.1, $15 thereafter. Yankee has also published a listing of 700 suppliers of plant materials, $6.

Permaculture Program Overseas

Yankee's companion group, Elfin Permaculture of Orange, MA, is executing a program — funded through the School of Living of York, PA — in which 150 teachers of environmentally sustainable self-reliance will be trained. Elfin Permaculture instructors Dan Hemenway and Thelma Snell will train groups in poor tropical countries in a teaching tour to Africa, Asia and Central America.

Permaculture is a philosophy of lifestyle design based on design principles observed in nature. Permaculturists seek to provide food, shelter, energy, fiber, water, income, aesthetics and community by applying these principles to unlock the potential abundance in each site. The Permaculture Design Course is a training program taught worldwide based on a course designed by internationally-renowned environmentalist Bill Mollison of Tasmania. Hemenway and Snell are editors of *The International Permaculture Species Yearbook*, and *Robin*, a bioregional newsletter for the US Northeast.

Tax deductible contributions should be payable to the School of Living. To donate or for more info, contact Minot Weld, RD 2 Box 235, Ovid, NY 14521. To contribute expertise in such areas as arid-lands food production, reforestation, intensive food production in tropical areas, food preservation in areas of high temperature, etc., contact: Dan Hemenway, POB 202, Orange, MA 01364.

Late-breaking News

During the Utah BLM wilderness review comment period, the BLM received 7000 letters, mostly pro-wilderness. This is about ten times the number of letters received for other state BLM wilderness reviews, so the BLM has decided that to respond to the letters, it must move back the date of the Final EIS, perhaps until January, 1988. The official comment period is over, but regulations require that BLM consider new input after the period is over until the FEIS is issued. So, if you've not written, write to the BLM in favor of the 16 million acre EF! Utah Wilderness proposal. Write: BLM, 324 S. State, Suite 301, SLC, UT 84111-2303.

The Department of Interior's Board of Land Appeals has rejected the attempt of Wilson, WY, resident Mark Altman to block Anschutz Corp. from drilling at its Mosquito Creek site in the Palisades roadless area of Bridger-Teton National Forest. Earth First! is considering action to stop the drilling.

Montana's Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks has issued a memo calling for ending the Grizzly's official Endangered status in Montana's Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem (NCDE). The memo claims that the goal of 560 Grizzlies set by the 1982 Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan has been exceeded. As of early October, no groups had publicly protested this memo. Earth First! hereby denounces this memo as a dangerous attempt to renew the killing of Montana's Grizzlies. The Grizzly should be listed as Endangered not only in the NCDE, but in all of its remaining habitat.

Reaganites' RPA Plan Is Unmitigated Madness

The 1974 Resource Planning Act (RPA) requires long range plans for the National Forest system to be updated every five years. The Reagan Administration has released a summary of its RPA Program, and soon will release the plan, over a year late. The summary shows that the plan will propose increased emphasis on and funding for roads, logging, livestock, and minerals; with decreased emphasis on natural resource protection.

FOR WANT OF A MATCH

by Jim Marotta-Jaenecke

A single-minded Smokey the Bear is being loosed on National Park forests, putting out even prescribed fires before they start to flame. Just when it seemed he'd been sent back to school to learn that fires in the forest can be ok — necessary even — the Bear's stamping feet were heard approaching Yosemite's Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias. Management fires, scheduled for ignition there on August 11, were canceled that morning by Park Service Regional Director Howard Chapman pending study by a review board originally set up to take a look at Sequoia burns but now examining burn policies for forests throughout Yosemite and Sequoia/Kings Canyon National Parks. The problem, it seems, was aesthetic — black-bottomed Sequoia trunks offended some.

The idea of fire in the forests had been gaining acceptance, even a warm welcome, from knowledgeable park lovers and park managers. Congress had even fueled the program this year with funds designated for park burns. But then someone noticed the burned trunks. While the concept of restoring a natural force to the forests seems lovely to most, when things actually get burnt, appreciation of a natural process sometimes turns to disgust. It's rather like supporting motherhood until the discovery is made that motherhood is a consequence of (cover your eyes) sex! A small but loud hue-and-cry has gone out to protect the Big Trees from the ugly blackness of soot.

Forests in the West have lived with lightning-caused fire for far longer than the Park Service and Forest Service have been around to put out such fires. Western forests have adapted to the presence of fire and its absence threatens the forests' well being.

The Park Service has been using fire as a tool to return the present-day forests to something resembling the natural ones. Where possible, they are letting natural fires run their course, but they have the effects of nearly a century of fire suppression to contend with. In mid and low elevations — where long growing seasons have produced more plant growth than up high, and where temperatures are higher, oxygen more available, and bare-rock fuel breaks less common — fire suppression has created a real fire hazard. Thick forest litter, thick stands of shade-tolerant saplings, and dense forest canopies allow fires starting in dry conditions to climb to the tops of the largest trees where the fires' own winds sweep flames from stand to stand. Such crown fires are difficult to stop and they tend to burn down the whole forest. Lightning fires in such areas cannot conscionably be allowed to burn while fuel levels are so great. Instead, prescribed fires are set during milder conditions while fire behavior, fuel moisture, and weather conditions are monitored. Prescriptions that set parameters for acceptable burning conditions can be written to create a fire that mimics natural ones of old. Such fires hug the ground, climbing upward only occasionally in dense thickets and producing a mosaic of old and new forest growth. The goal of many prescribed fires is to gradually reduce fuel levels to the point where natural fires can again run their course. Near developed areas, forests seem destined to be forever under either a fire-suppression or prescribed-fire management system.

A mild fire backing down a slope in Yosemite National Park. Photos by Jim Marotta-Jaenecke.

Lowering fire hazards is a small part of what natural or prescribed fires do for a temperate forest. Fires also release nutrients bound-up in dead plant material on the forest floor; thin the understory, making the forest more disease resistant and healthy; decrease the number of shade-tolerant species such as White Fir and Incense Cedar in favor of sun lovers such as Black Oak; kill diseases and diseased trees; help perpetuate meadow areas; prepare seed beds for new seedlings; stimulate seed release by many species including Giant Sequoias; promote seed germination and renewed growth by many fire-adapted plants; increase plant diversity; and increase animal abundance and diversity in the forest.

Among Sequoias in Yosemite and Sequoia/Kings Canyon, until prescribed fire was introduced in 1969/70, fire suppression threatened to destroy the groves, not only from the potential of devastating wild fires, but because there was virtually no Sequoia reproduction occurring. Sequoias continually release just a few seeds from cones gnawed by insects and squirrels. Most cones remain tightly closed, awaiting the heat of a fire below. Then there is a shower of seeds released by cones that have been dried out and opened. To germinate, each tiny Sequoia seed must land close to bare mineral soil or its inch-long rootlet won't make it to the water and nutrients essential for survival. The eight to twelve inches of duff that had commonly built-up under Sequoias by the late '60s was fatal to new generations of the giants. And the forest canopy was too thick with White Firs. Sequoias need sun.

Old Sequoias show the scars of many fires. Recurrent fires burned out diseased or rotten sections of trunks, helping the ancient ones live so long. Occasionally, fires brought an Old One down, or girdled it upright. In its place, though, young Sequoias sprang up in the new clearing or around the snag's base.

Recognizing the vital role of fire in Sequoia groves lead park scientists to an important conclusion: Protecting the groves from fire too well condemns them to eventual death.

Fire technicians started cautiously in returning fire to the forests. Since the early '70s, they have found that the timid fires with which they started didn't quite do the job intended. Little Sequoia reproduction resulted because unburned litter remained on the ground and canopies remained thick. Hotter prescriptions have more recently been written. In areas away from the named trees in Sequoia National Park, a relatively hot fire charred a number of large Sequoia trunks but prepared the way for the most abundant reproduction of young Sequoias known. The charring has led to the current ruckus. Decades of fire suppression left a dim memory of what Sequoia trunks used to look like. Pure russet is considered by some to be most beautiful, now.

Last winter, a group of National Park Service fire scientists evaluated the effects of prescribed fire in Sequoia groves. They concluded that fires were producing the effects considered necessary for the long-term survival of the groves and should be continued for the sake of the Sequoia ecosystem. In deciding if they're right, the question arises, should parks protect individual trees for people, now, to gawk at — the General Sherman, General Grant, or Grizzly Giant — or should they protect the species *Sequoiadendron giganteum*? The Park Service has preferred the latter in its prescribed fire program while accommodating the former — all named trees in the parks have been protected from consumption by prescribed fire through the removal of fuel at their bases.

Fire technicians in the NPS tend to have loftier environmental goals and more sophisticated knowledge of fire prescriptions than many of those who burn on state or Forest Service lands whose goals are often simply fuel reduction, forage production for cattle grazing, or site preparation for single-species tree planting. The NPS is trying, against considerable odds, to bring back a more natural ecosystem. In this instance, they know a great deal about what they are doing. They need to get on with it — they've almost a century of mistakes to reverse. What needs to change, to bring fire back to Sequoia groves, is the limits to our perception of what is beautiful in nature. Is it solely a mortal object such as a tree, or a continual process that allowed that tree — and will allow future trees like it — to come into being?

Meanwhile, while prescribed fires are halted in National Parks of the Sierra, forest litter continues to accumulate, diseases propagate, shade-loving species dominate, and Sequoia seedlings desiccate. Good ol' Smokey's vision and image need expansion. The protector of the forest can keep his shovel for times he really needs it, but he would do well to augment it with some fuel-moisture measuring sticks and a drip torch.

Jim Marotta-Jaenecke formerly was with Friends of the Earth and ***Not Man Apart.*** *He now writes for* ***Earth Island Journal.***

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Sequoia seedling sprouting from the ashes of a prescribed fire.

The rot of a previous fire scar burning out, Yosemite National Park.

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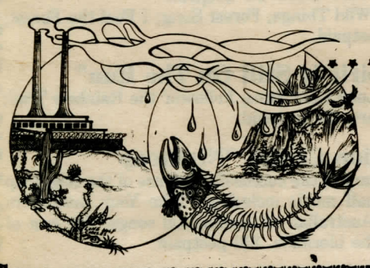

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Out of Print

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"The Poetry and Vision of Lone Wolf Circles." Early poetry and prose from Earth First!'s Lone Wolf Circles. Includes 10 full page prints of shamanistic wilderness art by Wolf. Almost out of print. 58 pages, paperback. $5 postpaid.

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By Aldo Leopold. This environmental classic was selected by more reviewers in *Sierra* magazine's recent overview of significant environmental books than any other. Dave Foreman, in that article, called it not only the most important conservation book ever written, but the most important book ever written. Paperback, $3.75 postpaid.

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"Toward An Art Of Having Place And Being Animal" by Charles Jones. This excellent volume of essays from Dream Garden Press deals with that most important need of our modern world — a sense of place. Reviewed in March 1986 *Earth First!*. Hardcover, 158 pages, $16 postpaid.

KILLING THE HIDDEN WATERS

"The Slow Destruction Of Water Resources In The American Southwest" by Charles Bowden. Ed Abbey calls Bowden the "best social critic and environmental journalist now working in the American southwest." This important study examines groundwater depletion in southern Arizona and the Oglalla aquifer by European cultures and the earlier efforts by the Pima/Papago and Comanche to live in harmoy with their dry lands. Reviewed in this issue. Paperback, 206 pages, 36 photos, 6 maps, $9 postpaid.

BLUE DESERT

By Charles Bowden. Just published by the University of Arizona Press, this is an eloquent and penetrating study of the darker side of the Sunbelt. One chapter, entitled "Foreman," is about — guess who? Belongs on the shelf next to Abbey's "Desert Solitaire." Hardback, 178 pages, $18.50 postpaid.

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By Henry David Thoreau with a major introductory essay by Edward Abbey — "Down The River With Henry Thoreau." Paperback, 303 pages, $6.50 postpaid.

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THE BHOPAL TRAGEDY — ONE YEAR LATER

A 235 page detailed report on the Bhopal disaster which killed more than 2,000 people was published by Sahabat Alam Malyasia (Friends of the Earth Malaysia) because the disaster "has not called forth the angry, militant response it should have" and "to call for an international condemnation of transnational corporations who put profit before human lives." See "Tribal Lore" in this issue for a short review. $10 postpaid.

CRY WOLF!

By Robert Hunter and Paul Watson. A stirring report from two of the founders of the original Greenpeace about the courageous efforts of Project Wolf in British Columbia to stop the demented wolf extermination campaign of the BC government — an extermination campaign demanded by livestockmen and hunting guides. Paul Watson and Project Wolf have recently affiliated with the Earth First! movement and will continue the campaign for wolf protection in Canada. *Cry Wolf* was reviewed in the November '85 *EF!*. Watson's article on the Sea Shepherd campaign in the Faroe Islands recently appeared in these pages. 130 pages, paperback. $9 postpaid.

BACK ISSUES

Yes, back issues of *Earth First!* are available for $2 apiece (to cover our postage and handling expenses). Some of the early issues are already out of print and numbers are running low on others, so order those you wish now.

YULE Dec. 21, 1981 (Vol. II, No. II) First Earth First! Road Show; Oil Leasing in Wilderness Areas; EF! Preserve System; Many early photos of Earth First!.

BRIGID Feb. 2, 1982 (Vol. II, No. III) Earth First! by Dave Foreman (reprinted from *The Progressive*); letters from *Progressive* readers; Oil Leasing in Wilderness Areas.

EOSTAR March 20, 1982 (Vol. II, No. IV) Mardie Murie Interview; Canyonlands Nuke Dump; EF! meeting in Eugene.

BELTANE May 1, 1982 (Vol. II, No. V) Little Granite Creek Drilling Controversy; GO Road; John Crowell; Western Civilization by Chim Blea; Monkeywrenching Seismo Crews; Jail: A Primer.

LITHA June 21, 1982 (Vol. II, No. VI) Little Granite Creek; Moab Roads a BLM WSA; Chim Blea on Babies; Dinkey Creek & McKinley Sequoias; What To Do as an EF!er; Caribou in Maine.

LUGHNASADH Aug. 1, 1982 (Vol. II, No. VII) Rendezvous at Little Granite Creek; Dustrud Resigns as *EF!* Editor; Gary Snyder on Violence; Canyonlands Nuke Dump; Little Granite Survey Stakes Pulled.

SAMHAIN Nov. 1, 1982 (Vol. III, No. I) BLM Rotten in Utah by Clive Kincaid; Ed Abbey on Books & Gurus; Bob Marshall's 1927 Inventory of Big Wilderness; Dear Ned Ludd/Closing Roads; Foreman Runs for Sierra Club Board; Mama Rue on Samhain; Bill Devall on Nuclear War; Foreman on Endangered Species & Wilderness; How To Do An EF! Wilderness Proposal.

EOSTAR March 21, 1983 (Vol. III, No. III) Franklin River Blockade in Australia; Salt Creek Blockade; GO Road and Bald Mt Road; Chim Blea on Domestication; Howie Wolke on RARE III; Bisti Circus; Deciduous Forest Ecosystem Preserve; Nightcap Blockade Photos (Australia); EF! White Cloud Wilderness Proposal(Idaho); Ned Ludd/Cutting Torch; Howie Wolke on the Wilderness Act; Road Show Diary; EF! in Sonora; Spurs Jackson on Books; Ed Abbey on The Big Woods; Navajo Sam; Nagasaki Johnson on Tactics; Mama Rue on Eostar; Creative Littering.

BELTANE May 1, 1983 (Vol. III, No. IV) Bald Mt Blockade; GO Road; Howie Wolke on Moderation; EF! Wyoming Wilderness Proposal; Canyonlands Nuke Dump; Maze Tar Sands; EF! Smashes Earth Last!; Ned Ludd/Helicopters; California Desert Sellout by BLM; Otter G'Zell on Whales; Mama Rue on Beltane; *Reenchantment of the World* Review; John Seed on Australia Rainforest Direct Action; Bigfoot Interview.

LITHA June 21, 1983 (Vol. III, No. V) Wilderness War in Oregon; Bald Mt Blockaders' Personal Accounts; Mama Rue on Summer Solstice; EF! Wilderness Preserve System and Map; Head of Joaquin on Utah; EF! Glen Canyon Demonstration; Franklin River Victory in Australia; Ned Ludd/Radios; GO Road Stopped; Reform of the Forest Service; Ed Abbey on Conscience of the Conqueror.

YULE Dec. 22, 1983 (Vol. IV, No. II) Forest Service Attacks Wilds, National RARE II Suit, DARN Report, Wolke on the Forest Service; EF! Utah Wilderness Proposal; EF! Ishi Wilderness Proposal (California); How To Do An EF! Wilderness Proposal; Ed Abbey in Utah; EF! Black Rock Desert Wilderness Proposal(Nevada); Sinkyone Struggle; Greenpeace in Siberia; *An Ecological & Evolutionary Ethic* Review; Coors "Beer;" Chim Blea on the Humanpox; Ned Ludd/Vehicle Modifications.

BRIGID Feb. 2, 1984 (Vol. IV, No. III) Oregon RARE II Suit; EF! Idaho Wilderness Proposal; Tuolumne; Forest Service Arrogance; Ned Ludd/Smoke Bombs; Head of Joaquin on Trapping; Coors in Shenandoah.

EOSTAR March 20, 1984 (Vol. IV, No. IV) Burger King Protest; Shipwrecked Environmentalism; Solomon Island Rainforest Action; Bald Mt Road Crumbles; Southern Utah Wilderness; Dave Brower/Muir's Disciple by Bill Devall; Ned Ludd/Tree Spiking & No Evidence; Mama Rue on Enlightenment; 1984 Road Show; Photos of Daintree Buried Protestors.

BELTANE May 1, 1984 (Vol. IV, No. V) Cabinet Mts Grizzlies & Mining; Forest Service Appeals Form; Wolke on the Role of EF!; EF! Owyhee Wilderness Proposal(Idaho, Oregon & Nevada); Angel Dusting Grizzlies; Middle Santiam; Colorado Recreation Dollars; EF! Arizona Wilderness Proposal; Arctic Wildlife Refuge Violated; Bolt Weevils; Devall on the Australian Environmental Movement; Ned Ludd/Survey Stakes & Disabling Vehicles; Deep Ecology & Reproduction; Save the Tuolumne Rally.

LITHA June 20, 1984 (Vol. IV, No. VI) Middle Santiam Blockade; Chim Blea on the Big Outside; Cabinet Mts & Grizzly; Coors in Shenandoah; Saguaro National Monument Mine; Murder on Key Largo; Burger King Demonstrations; Daintree Rainforest; Ned Ludd/Rising & Falling Birds; EF! Joseph Canyon; John Day Mining; Great Exchange; Acid Rain; In Defense of Humor; Wolke on Hunting; Nagasaki on Symbols & Lifestyles; Biocentrism of Western Civilization; Ned Ludd/Advanced Billboarding.

BELTANE May 1, 1985 (Vol. V, No. V) Yellowstone's Watergate, Snowmobiles in Yellowstone, Alabama Wilderness, Denali Mine, Grand Canyon Mine, Middle Santiam, Welfare Ranchers, Great Exchange, Welcome to Earth First!, Critters Protest Bighorn NF Plan, RNR Management, Beaverhead NF, Pine Beetles, African Parks Poisoned, Real Environmental Professionalism, Dark Side of Wilderness, Review of *Fragmented Forest*.

LITHA June 21, 1985, (Vol. V, No. VI) Road Frenzy, Tree Climbing Hero, Old Growth Actions in Oregon, EF! Guide to NF Planning, Aircraft in Grand Canyon, Mt. Graham Observatory, Jarbidge Elk, Hells Canyon, Grand Canyon Mine, Rainforest Insert & Ten Questions, King Range, Mike Frome on Fat Cat Conservationists, Review of *Meeting the Expectations of the Land*, Review of *In the Rainforest*, Strategic Monkeywrenching, Advanced Tree Spiking, Tyrone (WI) Nuke.

LUGHNASADH August 1, 1985 (Vol. V, No. VII) Battle for Millenium Grove, 3 Bears in Yellowstone, Oregon Overview, Montana (Hall Creek Well, RARE II bill, Swan Range Motocross), Yellowstone Bison, Mike Frome on Yellowstone, Washington Rendezvous, Ozark NF, Stikine River Dams, Mogollon Rim Logging, Salmon River, Mt. Rainier Shit, '85 RRR, Dreaming Big Wilderness, Jeff Sirmon, Tree Spiking & Moral Maturity, Deep Ecology & Life Style, Blade Ruiner: Tree Pining, Wolke Busted, Fire Stops Logging, Hands-On Forest Planning, Valve Lapping Compound, Lone Wolf on Animal Music, Reviews: *Emerald Forest, Green Politics, Chuang Tzu, Interntl Envir. Policy.*

MABON September 22, 1985 (Vol. V, No. VIII) Arizona EF! (Overview, Mt. Graham, Grand Canyon Mines & Helicopters, Cliff Damn, Coconino Roads), Texas Wilderness Logging, Militarization of the West, Nevada Wilderness, France Sinks Rainbow Warrior, Notes from a Maturing Tree-Hugger, Utah BLM Wilderness, Gila Wilderness, Stikine River, Florida Wilderness Recovery, Eastern Forest Preserves, Natives & Natural Peoples, Ecological Decay/Political Violence, Blade Ruiner: Ceramic Spikes, Lone Wolf on Country Music, Reviews: *Who Speaks for Wolf, Seeing Green, Parable of the Tribes, Natural Alien.*

SAMHAIN November 1, 1985 (Vol. VI, No. I) Battle for The Bear, Mt. Graham Scopes, Clockwork Grizzly, Ski Yellowstone, Grant Village, Montana EF! Climbs Marais Pass Monument, Hells Canyon Logging, Austalian Woodchipping, Colorado Water Diversions, Environment & Peace, Stein Valley (BC) Logging, Louisiana-Pacific Strike, Camel Cigs Against Rainforest, Carole King on Idaho Wilderness, Rainforest Insert, Mann Creek (ID), Wild Horses, Second Thoughts on Fire, Blade Ruiner: Ceramic Spikes II, A Cop on Security, Lone Wolf Circles on Poetry, Recommended Periodicals, Reviews: *Cry Wolf, Meares Island, Earth Wisdom.*

YULE December 21, 1985 (Vol. VI, No. II) Highjacking of FOE, Colorado EF!, Texas EF!, EF! in Southern California, Bay Area EF!, Maine (Big A Damn, Straight Bay Damn), Sinkyone, Congress on Griz, Pinnacles Pigs, SS Watt, Japan, British Columbia Wilderness Logging, Thinking Like a Rainforest, Big Mountain Relocation, Australia Update, International Rainforest Conference, Blade Ruiner: Quartz Tree Spikes, Trapping, Wolves & Moose in Alaska, Bioregional Approach to Wilderness, Montana Sellout, Spotted Owls, Lone Wolf Circles on Indian Music, Reviews: *Turning Point, Nuclear Battlefields, Declaration of a Heretic, Death of Nature, American Hunting Myth, Parable of the Tribes* reply.

BRIGID February 2, 1986 (Vol. VI, No. III) Cutting the Tongass, Dian Fossey, CO EF!, '86 RRR, Gallatin NF, Oregon Update, Colo. Aspen, Calif. Condor, Desert Eagles, Hall Creek Protest, Bruneau Snail, Bleeding Utah, EF! Acid Rain, Texas Boggy Creek, Designer Genes, Seed in India, South Moresby, World Rainforest Report #5, Foreman on Cowboys, Stoddard on Death, Feb. Pagan Festivals, Wuerthner on Forest Fire, Technology & Mountain Thinking, Spiking Refinements, Lone Wolf Circles on Gary Snyder, Stephanie Mills: RRR Thoughts, Reviews: Books on Mountain Lions and Grizzlies.

EOSTAR March 20, 1986 (Vol. VI, No. IV) Howie Jailed; Yellowstone Supt.: "Shove It!"; Fishing Bridge Suit; Montana Road Show; Flathead NF Plan; Nat'l Old Growth Campaign; Hells Canyon; Tahoe NF Plan; Taxes & Forest Destruction; Hierarchy & Grassroots in Sierra Club; Suwannee River; Snoqualmie River; Texas Pipeline; Cheyenne Bottoms; Restoring Salmon Streams; Howling Wilderness?; Gourd of Ashes; Desertification & Plant Genetic Resources; Wagon Wilderness; Suburbanizing the Bush; Public Interest Law Liability; Lone Wolf Circles on Folk Music; BC Rejects Native Management; Reviews: Sacred Paw, Gifting Birds, Restoring the Earth, State of the World 1985, The Earth Speaks, Language of the Birds, Mad Max & Streetwise, Fire From the Mountain; Ned Ludd: Radios, Mountain Bikes; Legend of Tiny Tonka; Desert Rivers; Notes from Ultima Thule.

BELTANE May 1, 1986 (Vol. VI, No. V) EF! Utah BLM Wilderness Proposal; EF! Griz Recovery Plan; Why Grizzlies Die in Y'stone; Neches River; BLM-FS Interchange; Memories of a Tree Climber; Acid Rain in BWCA; Los Padres NF; San Bruno Mt; Colo Aspens; Mt. Graham; Anti-herbicide Researcher Fired; Poisoning Saguaros; Eating As If Nature Mattered; Smokey the Bear Sutra; Animal Rights vs. the Wilderness; Civilization Act; Schmookler on Anarchy; Rainbow Permit Controversy; Rocky Mt. Front — American Serengeti; Recreating Ohio Wilderness; Wonderful Famine; Frome on Conservation; Lone Wolf Circles on Poems by Jose; Reviews: *Gathering the Desert, Good Wild Sacred, Building the Green Movement, Africa in Crisis*, and the Work ofPeter Matthiessen; Ned Ludd on *Outlaw's Bible*; Money in your Coffeepot.

LITHA June 21, 1986 (Vol. VI, No. VI) Idaho Compromise; World Bank Demos Set; 4 Arrested in Texas; Internat'l Law & Monkeywrenching; Fishing Bridge Protest; Grand Canyon Aircraft; Stanislaus NF Protest; Long Island (WA) Cedars; Massachusetts EF!; Florida Panther; AZ & CO Acid Rain Actions; Mt. Graham Demo; Millennium Grove Update; North Kalmiopsis; Restoring Colorado Wilderness; Green Conf. Mired in Anthropocentrism; Hawaiian Native Rights; Chicken of the Desert; Diversity?; Lone Wolf Circles on Katie Lee and Cecelia Ostrow; Chim Blea on Deep Ecology vs. Animal Rights; Wilderness Restoration in Appalachians; Animal Thinking; Reviews of *Promised Land, Vegetation Changes on Western Rangelands;* Devall reviews new books on Muir; The Future Of Monkeywrenching.

LUGHNASADH August 1, 1986 (Vol. VI, No. VII) Fishing Bridge Action; 1986 RRR; Yellowstone: Backcountry, TWA; Glacier Park Griz; John Seed on India; Verde Damn; British Columbia Wilderness; Whaling Update; Malaysian Park; Owyhee Mountains; Romancing A Planet; Wilderness in Me; WRR #7; Greenpeace vs. The Bomb; Killing Wilderness; Manes on Anarchy; Abbey on Anarchy; Cult of Tree-Cutters; Population & Justice; Reviews of *Grizzly in Southwest, Modern Crisis*; Chim Blea on Babies; Ned Ludd on Effective Tree Spiking.

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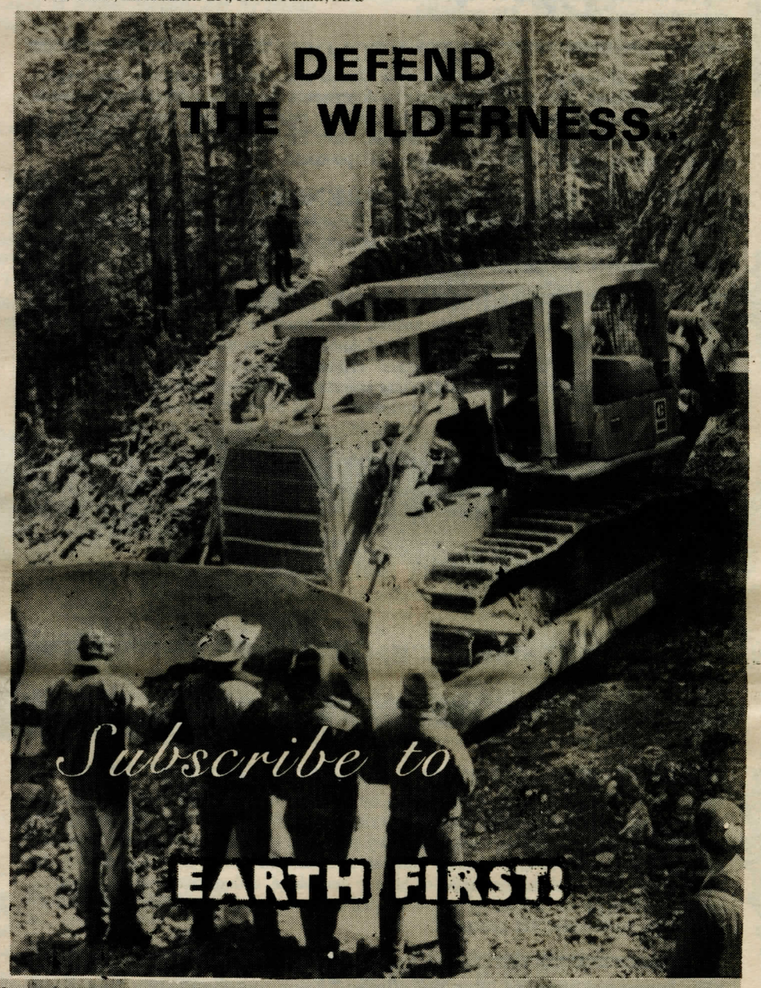

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FIRE Needed in Sierra

by Tom Skeele

We are now aware of the negative effect good ol' Smokey the Bear has had on the ecological stability of our public forested lands, and on our nation's perception of natural fires. Take, for instance, public reaction to the wild fires which burned throughout the western states this past summer. Fortunately, here in the Sierra Nevada, the three National Parks (Sequoia, Kings Canyon and Yosemite) saw a need to change public misperceptions 17 years ago. In 1969, resource managers in Sequoia and Kings Canyon parks, and a year later in Yosemite, adopted a Prescribed Burn Program, which until this summer was alive and well and burning in the Sierra Nevada. However, in late summer, a moratorium was placed on the Prescribed Burn Program in all three Parks as a result of the response of the Western Regional Director of the NPS to a few individual objections to the program based on aesthetic concerns.

As a result of these isolated complaints (mostly from one tenacious foothills resident), a review panel was created to study the policy of, scientific basis for, and individual concern over the burning program in Giant Sequoia groves. At a January, 1986, In-House Review, the resource managers and NPS scientists stated that the parkwide burn program had evolved in a cautious manner, that much has been learned about how to best simulate natural fires, and that the program is making progress toward its goal of reestablishing a natural fire balance. The program used in the Sierra has become a model for other public land agencies to follow.

The outcome of the panel's review was the decision that having a Prescribed Burn Program is still desirable. Yet a moratorium was placed on all prescribed burns (not just in Sequoia groves) in the three Parks, until the panel's final report is presented in November (the usual end of the prescribed burn season).

Why a moratorium if the program is acknowledged as desirable? It appears that a few individuals have influenced this decision based on their own perception that fire scars on trees are unsightly. As a result, a program that was preparing to reestablish a balance in our forests is losing ground.

(If you want an idea of how warped the "Smokey the Bear" concept is, ask your local Forest Service station for a copy of the cartoon book, "The Story of Smokey the Bear!")

Now is the time to let that fire in your ecological soul rekindle the Prescribed Burn Program here in the Sierra Nevada. Write to: Howard Chapman, Western Regional Director, National Park Service, 550 Golden State Ave, S.F., CA 94102; and William Mott, Director, NPS, Dept. of Interior, Wash., DC 20242. Tell them that this program is known to be an ecologically-justified management tool, and that the moratorium should be lifted pronto. Help keep the fire burning!

Tom Skeele leads nature trips for the Yosemite Institute, and is a leader in CA EF! events.

Ed. note: Shortly before we went to press, Tom received a letter from Chapman saying that the NPS has reinstated prescribed burns in the chaparral and upper chaparral zones (up to about 5000') in the Parks, and that they may later fully reinstate the burns. This news makes our letters even more urgent. Clearly, Chapman is willing to consider allowing the program to resume, but his partial reinstatement is not good enough.

An Open Letter to the '87 Rendezvous Committee

Open Letter to the 87 Rendezvous Committee and all EF!ers

We, the 86 RRR committee, wish to share our hard-earned experience and make some recommendations to the 87 RRR committee and EF! in general.

There were 6 major problem areas of the 86 RRR. They were: lack of people working on the committee; problems with workshops; sale of merchandise other than EF! trinkets and snake oil; dogs; campfires; and the Rally. We'll address each one.

You need more than 3 people to do all the work of the Rendezvous. There are 3 parts to it: planning, the RRR itself, the wrap-up. There are some things that must be done, starting last week: Site selection, Forest Service liason, insurance, portapotties, trash, articles for the Journal, and map. If there aren't people to take care of these things within the next few months, there won't be a Rendezvous in 87. If other things aren't volunteered for, then they should be dropped. If no one volunteers to coordinate carpools, there'll be no carpooling. If no one organizes workshops, we guess there won't be workshops. If no one is in charge of water (there won't be any on the North Rim of the Canyon), it will be up to each individual. In your future articles, advertise what you need people to do. What gets volunteered for gets done. Any other approach will ensure burnout, frustration, and limited enjoyment of the Rendezvous. We also suggest that the committee meet briefly each evening to solve problems and give each other mutual support.

The sale (non-sale) of arts, crafts, musicians' tapes, authors' books, etc. caused the 86 committee hours of hassle. There have been worthy arguments for and against the sale of non-EF! trinkets. You need to make a policy about this clear and publicize it in the RRR Journal articles. At the Rendezvous, stick to it. There won't be anything sold at the EF! table except our usual merchandise. You might consider a show of EF! artists during the Rally. This may incredibly complicate the Forest Service permit.

We have always said that no dogs were allowed at the RRR. While most people have respected that 'rule,' there have always been exceptions. Of those exceptions, there were several "problem" dogs this year. They bark at all hours of the day and night, they disrupt workshops and other activities, they eat food uninvited, and they don't use the portapotties. One of them bit a child. That incident elevates this problem to major proportions. You must develop a clear cut policy about dogs. People who bring dogs are not aware that their dog causes problems. We received a letter complaining about our policy about dogs and this person's dog was one of the problem dogs. We suggest a solution. One alternative is that the first time a dog is a problem (loose or barking), any person at the Rendezvous may ask the dog and their human to leave and will have absolute support by the entire RRR committee.

The workshop arrangement was not optimal. We have received many comments and discussed the problems with several different groups. We make the following recommendations. On one day, have 3-4 seminars that will have no (workshop) competition. These should be our major campaign issues. These will allow a more structured learning experience about the issue and the campaign strategy. Any NVDA preps should take place after the formal RRR (like on Saturday). On another day, we should start with the Circle meeting, then have regional and local group caucuses. There should be no (workshop) competition on this day. Perhaps the greatest advantage of the 85 RRR over the 86 RRR were these caucuses. We think it's one of the best outcomes of this gathering of our tribe. The other days should have all other workshops.

We've gotten too big for only one campfire. 300 people don't fit around one fire, no matter how big it is. Here's one way of dealing with this. The main campfire has scheduled programs each night, where singers are scheduled before the RRR and do their sets without being interrupted until, say, after 11pm, when everyone has degenerated to drunk and ignorant. Other campfires could be encouraged, based bioregionally (i.e. Northern Rockies or Texas), or issue-based (Grizzley Bear Task Force or Old Growth), or some other affinity (i.e. Tai Chi or single males under 20). These campfires could then host singers/etc. themselves, "invite" anyone interested, hold potlucks, whatever. More organized groups could plan these things before the Rendezvous but alot would be spontaneous. All campfire "programs" would be posted like the workshops are. These satellite campfires would serve several functions: take pressure off the main campfire, serve as smaller social centers, especially valuable for first time Rendezvous attenders who don't know many people yet, allow for more diversity, remove cooking from the main campfire, and disperse areas of concentration.

Although Karen and Marcy struggled mightily, the Rally was a pain in the ass on several counts. Here are several recommendations that we strongly support.

1) All speakers, singers, poets, etc, must sign up before the Rendezvous and there should be a limit of the total number of performers.

2) Have a tentative schedule made before the Rendezvous and inform all performers as to how much time they have. Finalize the schedule at least a day before the Rally, publicize it, and stick to it.

3) If a performer isn't ready when it's their turn, they miss it entirely.

4) All performers must stick to their time limit. Performers who extend their time to double, triple, even quadruple their scheduled amount are being extremely discourteous to other participants and should be interrupted. Perhaps second sets can be done by musicians, poets, and others who have more to sing/say.

5) The performers need to know what is expected of them well in advance so that they can do their part in the smooth functioning of the Rally.

It was 7 pm by the time Dave spoke at the 86 Rally. People were tired, cold, and hungry. Dave, and several others at the end of the program had to cut their turns short. Since the Rally speech is one of the few speeches that Dave thinks about and plans, we'd like to hear it unabridged. We admit that this is a prejudice on our part but feel that it is shared by others of our tribe.

One last word; there will be lots of willing helpers at the Rendezvous. We thank everyone who pitched in last year. Certainly the Rendezvous was a success because of you. The challenge facing the 87 RRR committee is to be better prepared to utilize all the willing hands. You need more people and better planning to do that.

We're all looking forward to assisting you however we can.

See you at the North Rim of the Grand Canyon, 1987 8th annual Round River Rendezvous!

The 86 RRR committee,
Roger Featherstone
Nancy Morton

Mike Roselle and the Monkeywrenchers perform at the 86 Rendezvous. Photo by Steve Holt.

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Technology and Mortality

by Miss Ann Thropy

"Education," whether general or specifically related to family planning, is the nostrum most often mentioned as a solution to the world population crisis, usually based on statistics from developed countries correlating a rise in education levels with decreased birth rates. The fact is, like all technological solutions to technological problems, education programs have been an ecological failure, even where they *do* decrease birth rates. The statistics fail to bear out the social context of such programs, which tend to be associated with urban, industrial, consumer-oriented economies. Post-War Japan provides a striking example. It miraculously halved a 3.45% birth rate during the '50s — the same decade that saw its transformation into an industrial giant threatening ecosystems around the globe. Similar scenarios are happening in Korea, Singapore and elsewhere. This is mainly due to contraception, abortion and birth control information, but again the distinction between general education and family planning is nominal since the latter relies on the former at some stage.

Education programs, then, may indeed cut birth rates from four to two children, but if this decrease is based on overall movement toward industrialization, those two may consume ten times as much as before and actually accelerate environmental degradation.

I'm not aware of any biocentric discussion of overpopulation which acknowledges this relationship. (Anti-Malthusians, like Boserup in her *Technology and Population*, see the causal relation and praise education as a means to their panacea of technological growth.) Family planning and education are linked to the technocratic control responsible for the ecological crisis in the first place, and deep ecologists should research ways to dissociate them from it.

Part of the problem is our insufficient definition of the term 'overpopulation.' Demographic definitions are hopelessly anthropocentric, usually suggesting a disfunction in the ability of humans to use resources for higher living standards. We need a biocentric definition. I'll venture one now by saying any human population is overpopulated when it disrupts the cycles of nature so as to threaten to permanently reduce global diversity. By this definition the US and all industrial nations are vastly overpopulated, no matter how wealthy they are or how efficient their use of resources is. Industrialization means overpopulation.

Technological solutions to technological problems do not work. We must ask how population stability occurs naturally, not through sociological tinkering. The last time this happened was in the Mesolithic period, when humans were hunter-gatherers. Population was held in check not by low birth rates, but by high infant mortality rates (although studies of extant tribes like the Djuka and Motu suggest they also practiced techniques to limit offspring). When we hear that medical science has increased longevity from about 35 to about 70 years, this means it has reduced infant mortality. People in the Pleistocene didn't drop dead at 35 — if they lived past infancy they probably lived to 70 as people always have (three score and ten, says the Bible). But since approximately half the population died in childhood, the average was 35.

The central cause of overpopulation is not high fertility (although we should strive to reduce that too) but lower infant mortality due to technological intervention. This happened in Europe and, through colonial expansion, spread to the Third World, where Western medicine, green revolutions and higher education are ensuring a bleak future for us all.

If we really are serious about overpopulation, we have to confront this fact and try to reintroduce a situation where technology does not interfere with infant mortality (or any mortality, although deaths at other ages have remained quite constant through history — except during wars and plagues). Social justice is an interesting topic which seems to have taken over the overpopulation debate, but the only just way to control population is to let natural processes do it.

If we can save children, we will. I'd use any method, technological or otherwise, to protect my child. But remove the technology to do it, and it is no longer an issue. It may be sad that children (or anybody) have to die to keep populations stable; but it's high tragedy to create a technology that insures children will reach reproductive age and then limits birth rates, all by rationalizing Earth into an industrial society. The good effects of technology are inseparable from the bad.

Reestablishing natural mortality rates essentially means dismantling the technological network that supports medical science. Is this utopian? Not really. The technological complex is more fragile than its discourse lets on. We have seen in the area of wilderness preservation how monkeywrenching succeeds in undermining the plans of corporations. At least the idea of technology dismantlement isn't *distopian*, as is, for instance, talk about forced sterilization — another technological solution which requires the propagation of the very technological complex which is the problem. Technological interference with mortality rates is the root of the crisis and must be confronted. Nothing else will do.

Here are some suggestions, inadequate at best. I'd like to hear more. Finding practical ways to dismantle industrial technology is, to my mind, the most important task of deep ecology.

1) Preserve areas where mortality rates are still natural. This means preventing the export of technology to underdeveloped nations. The US is the worst culprit here and its tool is the World Bank. Put pressure on the World Bank to stop its destructive loans to Third World countries. The industrialization of indigenous populations is a conscious policy — it can be changed.

2) Take back areas controlled by technology. We might follow the example of the nuclear-free zone movement and establish technology-free zones through plebiscite. Local communities could decide for themselves what technologies to limit.

3) Fight technological advances. Don't let the high-tech mythos delude you. Universities, research institutes and corporations should become targets of paper monkeywrenching and protests. Recent legal action and the successful Earth First! protest in California against genetic engineering shows this is possible.

4) Extend monkeywrenching to urban areas, corporate offices, research institutions. This is a controversial idea, which may not be wise, but should be discussed.

5) Spiritually reject technology. Become a pagan and ask the old gods, and ancestors to defeat technology. It's probably not a coincidence that the world started going downhill when we rejected our ancestral gods.

No doubt, many readers will agree that this piece fairly glows in the dark! Others may consider it blasphemous. Responses may be sent to Earth First! (but we will consider printing only those which emanate from a deep ecological perspective; bleeding-heart liberals (christian or secular humanist) and Marxists need not write).

View from the Outhouse

Celebrating Shays' Rebellion

by Robert B. Streeter

There's an event that all Earth First!ers should know about, which took place 200 years ago among the rolling hills and mountains of western Massachusetts. We are shaped by those before us, like it or not, and the Shays' Rebellion has given us a fine tradition of civil disobedience, be it resistance to oppressive taxes or environmental destruction.

Rebellion was the last thing Massachusetts farmers wanted in 1786, only 10 years after the Revolution in which most of them marched. But 200 years ago this past spring, the rural caretakers sowed the seeds of revolution once more.

In the eyes of those farmers, Boston had replaced Great Britain as the oppressive ruling power. Taxes were higher and more numerous than most people could bear, a direct result of the Commonwealth trying to pay its costs for the Revolution.

"I have been great abused," said one farmer, expressing the sentiments of most, "have been obliged to do more than my part in the war; been loaded with class rates, town rates, province rates, continental rates and all rates . . . been pulled and hauled by sheriffs, constables and collectors, and had my cattle sold for less than they were worth."

Farmers who were deep in debt and years behind in their taxes were summoned by the dreaded Court of Common Pleas for nonpayment of debt, and helplessly watched as the constables sold their property at public auction, often with a portion of the debt still remaining. Nearly everyone was indebted to everyone else, and everybody knew somebody in debtor's prison. It was time to act.

The small rural towns petitioned the General Court (the Legislature) that spring for relief, but word came in July that nothing would change. The farmers had no friend in Gov. James Bowdoin or many of the legislators, who were required to own property in an ascending scale according to the importance of their position, with only large property holders in the Senate (a situation not unlike the current plutocracy resulting from the Reagan revolution.)

The next move was one step closer to rebellion, though perfectly legal and nonviolent. County conventions were called in five counties, and delegates were sent from every town to express their grievances. Copies of resolutions from these conventions were sent to the General Court in Boston, with hopes of finally making an impact.

A problem of timing then presented itself. The General Court was not in session and could not act before the next meeting of the Court of Common Pleas in Northampton, Mass., scheduled for August 29th, so the Yankee farmers decided on crossing the threshold of rebellion. Simply by a nonviolent show of numbers, they marched on Northampton and prevented court from convening.

That sort of action occurred throughout Massachusetts during the autumn of 1786, and eventually a dirt farmer from Pelham and former captain in the Revolution emerged as the rebellion's leader: Daniel Shays.

Shays and other leaders organized their army for a series of demonstrations and actions, and though many of them were illegal, they didn't want violence. But Boston's wealthier citizens, in conjunction with the General Court, raised and appropriated funds to send a militia to quiet the rebellion. The first confrontation was at the federal arsenal in Springfield, where Shays' men (armed with muskets) marched toward the building on Jan. 25, 1787, planning to sieze it without drawing first blood. At 100 yards the militia opened fire, killing four farmers and sending Shays and his men on the run.

To greatly simplify the months that followed, the rebellion ended quickly without further violence, and eventually a more sympathetic governor (John Hancock) and Legislature pardoned the rebels and made a better attempt at addressing their grievances. And though the rebellion was quelled, it scared the hell out of our founding fathers in hot and muggy Philadelphia, who were hard at work on the Constitution. The unfortunate result was a much stronger federal government, weapons and all. John Adams described the Shaysites as "ignorant, restless desperadoes without conscience or principles who would destroy the whole fabric at once . . . ." Thomas Jefferson saw them differently. "I hold it that a little rebellion now and then is a good thing, and as necessary in the political world as storms in the physical . . . . It is a medicine necessary for the sound health of government. God forbid that we should ever be 20 years without such a rebellion."

He believed strongly that the spirit of resistance to government should never die. "It would often be exercised wrongly," Jefferson declared, "but better wrongly than not exercised at all . . . The tree of liberty must be refreshed from time to time with the blood of patriots and tyrants. It is its natural manure."

Not long ago I approached Pelham, Massachusetts, courtesy of the Daniel Shays Highway, a memorial I trust Shays would find appalling. I wanted to see the old meeting house where Shays and his men often gathered, and a plaque in memory of Shays which commemorates the "leader of the Shays Rebellion against unjust laws. On this hilltop half of his ragged army encamped for six nights, Jan. 28 to Feb. 3, 1787."

Today that hilltop contains a contrast of then and now: an old white church and a sophisticated communications tower. Times have changed since Shays worked the thin rocky soil of Pelham, but many of the struggles he fought are still with us today. The family farm is dying at the feet of an Administration which cares more for bombs than bread. Some 60% of our federal taxes go toward the military and the cancerous insanity of more and more weapons, while next to nothing goes toward our farmers and the land, wilderness, or any kind of environmental protection. Weapons over wilderness. Daniel Shays would never stand for it. The spirit of resistance he helped ignite 200 years ago must never be forgotten, and celebrated often.

Carry it on.

UNDATED artist's sketch of Daniel Shays. There is no known portrait of the 18th century rebel.

Prescott Dells

by Andrew Bard Schmookler

I used to live in Prescott, Arizona. Of the many beautiful places there, my favorite was an area called the Granite Dells. The Dells convinced me that there's something to the idea, shared by the American Indians and ancient Greeks, that in some special places spirits dwell, that to visit these places is to make a spiritual journey.

From a distance, the Dells form a seam stretching across the plain, rounded rocks glowing pink like flesh fresh from a hot shower. Up close, this rocky core of primeval hills provides a perfect place to climb and jump, and to witness how when nature destroys its own creations, it's simply forming a new kind of beauty. In the low places, the worn away pieces of granite make a soil from which grow cactus and pine and oak. While at the bottom, by the creek, a ribbon of leafy cottonwoods shows how soft rocks can become.

One of my friends when I lived in Prescott was a man born and bred in the area; born to the family business of investing people's money, and bred to the individualist creed for which the region is known. After wise-cracking with each other, we'd settle into some good-natured ideological argument. One day his belief in the sanctity of private property and my belief in the sanctity of Earth collided. He ended up defending the position that if an individual owned the Grand Canyon he'd have the right to make it a parking lot.

Neither of us won the argument in the other's eyes, of course. But when I went to the Dells the other day, after many years, I remembered that history has its own way of declaring winners in arguments such as ours. There were the Dells again. Still eerily majestic, still filled with secret places where spirits whisper. But in the middle of the place, where I used to enter the Dells on a trail of rabbit tracks and Coyote scat, a great gash was laid open. Dynamite and bulldozer had swept aside the rock to open the way for a large steel structure rising in the hollow. To me, this building, with its glinty hard surfaces, had no relation to the place it stood, except that it could only stand there at the expense of the place. I wondered whether that kind of "expense" had any place in the calculations of those who owned the spot, or did the builders (of this new luxury resort) simply figure that they could profitably trade on all that surrounding beauty?

Do you remember that ad against littering, where an old American Indian looks at a site strewn with litter, a tear running down his noble face? In the ad, the Indian stands as a spirit of the land itself, a land that once was his, but his in a different sense than we make it ours today. Hardly able to look at that gash in the Dells, I thought: that watchful spirit has far more to weep over than beer cans and styrofoam cups.

Andrew Schmookler's brilliant book ***Parable of the Tribes*** *is available through us for the paltry sum of $11.*

Beyond "Horns and Nukes"

by Peter Bralver

George Wuerthner's article "On Horns and Nukes" in the Mabon issue is an example of mistaken thinking pretending to be biologically correct. Its conclusion is a political one built on the false premise that its leading argument is "scientific." The fallacy of its reasoning is that bad neo-Darwinism applied to sociology is good analogy. His attempt to relate the brain to weapons as ornamental displays totally disregards the wealth of studies on the new physics of the brain, which limit the validity of his obscure discussion of brain anatomy. Also it is well known that the sizes and shapes of horns and antlers relate to how they conduct temperature and to the evolutionary energy of growth zones. (By "evolutionary energy of growth zones" I mean ordered growth of horns and antlers in zones of implicit specialization unfolding in harmony with the physical forces acting in the environment.) This physics cannot be explained away by discussing the evolutionary display of ornamental weaponry. Evolutionary display is largely the result of making visible an effect showing rates of growth over time, and is due to the pressure of environmental forces contributing to the geometry of horns and antlers.

Wuerthner's argument distorts the facts when he states that dominance hierarchy in large mammals can be caused by their superficial ornaments of status (horns and antlers) whose larger sizes he supposes to be like unconscious cues traded between nations. The layered mechanisms of an unconscious brain cannot explain Wuerthner's status ranking, since nuclear weapons are not display images and indeed are thermochemically invisible until exploded, unlike ornamental weaponry in animals which is visible. For Wuerthner's article to hold water, he would have to show that both nuclear stockpiles and horns are unconsciously grown in a wild, natural way. But he cannot, for nuclear stockpiles come from artificially controlled and deliberately calculated conscious thinking. This (yech!) human genius and high-tech short-circuits the natural ecological sources of growth.

This comparison of instinctive growth to calculated ethical perversity reminds me of those degraded textbook pictures of how photosynthesis works, shown by pictures of little factories inside plants. Wuerthner's article makes me visualize little primitive horn-shaped brains inside atomic scientists' heads, and tiny atomic scientists inside horns and antlers. This is similar to the thinking of Oppenheimer, engineer of the first nuke, who found a Hindu text inside the explosion: "I have become death, Destroyer of worlds." Surely Nature is not the warped god of our power-hungry scientific fantasies!

Peter Bralver is a theoretical mathematician and a contact for Los Angeles EF!

Will the REAL Predator Please Stand Up (SO I CAN GET A BETTER SHOT)

by Dead Wolf

As soon as we opponents of predator control programs figure we're making headway (remember the banning of compound 1080, which the Reagan administration made legal again) some politician/bureaucrat opens the lid to this pandora's box of miseries again. So I've been thinking, if we can't kill the monster, maybe we can turn it around and sic it back on the perverted bastards that created and nurture it. After all, today is the day of startling transformations: nuclear missiles now go by the name of peacekeepers; right-to-lifers propose the death penalty for people trying to avoid the holocaust of overpopulation; and Ronald Reagan, the second-rate actor who spent WWII hiding behind the skirts of Hollywood starlets, is touted as the essence of macho. I shouldn't speak too disparagingly of Ron, though. His administration has taught me one thing: If you take a pile of bullshit and give it a real upbeat, positive sounding name . . . you've still got bullshit but it can make a good weapon if you toss it right.

So how do we make a silk purse out of the sow's ear of predator control? It might sound impossible, but only until you hear about the new predator rating system on which my plan is based. Using this system, all those "control" fanatics can still have their poisons, traps, aerial gunnings, the whole sick scenario, but while they're satisfying their perverted urges they'll actually be doing some good. Furthermore, this plan is based on science and strictly business wildlife management.

The first step is to develop a predator rating system. The way to make sure we're getting the most bang for our bucks is by directing our efforts at those species causing the most harm. The way to achieve this is to rate predators in terms of the value of the animals they kill. If a critter is killing somthing that's a nuisance, then we should encourage rather than kill it. Our predator rating scale — we'll call it the "P scale" — will tell us all this.

For example, let's apply our criteria to Mountain Lions. One thing they kill is deer. Now, I know deer are cute, but there are a lot of them, so in this case the lion would earn a neutral (0) rating on our P scale. Lions also kill cattle and this has brought them lots of trouble. But ask almost anybody, including ranchers who complain about low beef prices, and they'll tell you there are too damn many cattle in this world. That's especially true on public lands where most lions live. Obviously, lions are in this case killing a pest. That would give them positive points on our P scale. These positive points combined with the neutral rating lions receive for deer gives them a positive P rating overall. A positive rating means that the animal has a beneficial effect on the ecosystem. Based on the results of this objective survey we should stop all control programs directed at Mountain Lions, close all lion hunting seasons and begin stocking our public lands with them.

Let's now apply our system to another animal. Since we just mentioned them, why not cows? In the past they've always been seen as victims in predator/prey wars. But our new system shows that the wily cow has been pulling the wool over our eyes for years. (So have their friends, the sheep.) Cows, mostly through their unwitting human agents, have been responsible for more exterminations than any other animal in the history of the American West. They've wiped out the Timber Wolf and Grizzly. Every day they add more Mountain Lions, Desert Tortoises and other critters to the long list of their victims. Add to that all the plants they've chomped and stomped into oblivion; and the fact that they've even turned on their naive dupes, humans, waging biological warfare against them by polluting their waters with giardia . . . and it becomes obvious that we are dealing with a cunning and diabolical villain that will accept only total domination.

Applying the P scale to the species cattle have decimated we get a frightening look at the carnage they have wrought. The Grizzly and Timber Wolf are virtually extinct and everyone knows that the more rare anything is the more valuable it is. Considering other rare animals like the Mountain Lion, Black Bear and Golden Eagle which have fallen prey to these deceptively stupid-looking beasts, it's obvious they have a taste for precious prey. The cow's rating is astronomical on the negative side of the P scale. The cow is one of the most dangerous predators ever known.

The same can be said for sheep, and in some cases goats and horses. Now that the truth has been revealed by this scientific survey, we're working to change predator control programs across the US. It's imperative that we immediately begin aerial gunning of herefords, beefmasters, anguses, etc., and their woolly friends, too. I would even recommend a bounty. This is an emergency!

We could scrap all those poisons we've been using on Coyotes and develop new ones that are particularly effective against these cloven hoofed killers. (Think of all the jobs we'd create.) I can envision cyanide guns buried and baited as they have been for Coyotes, only in this case the lure would be scented like a succulent tuft of grass instead of a piece of meat. We could also put little poison collars around the limbs of bushes, concentrating on the endangered plants that the worst offenders seem to relish. That way we could prove we were killing only rogues and thus still the uproar that would no doubt arise from the bossy huggers and sheep lovers.

The hordes of "sportsmen" that would have little to do with their hounds now that lions and bears were protected could be turned loose on these more dangerous predators. With the incentive of the bounty, they could make quick inroads into this infestation. I realize there would be less sport in chasing a lumbering old steer than a fleet lion, but hunters could exchange their hounds for more appropriate breeds, dachshunds or bassett hounds; or they could handicap their hounds by tying bags around their legs as in a sack race to make it a fairer chase.

Now that the true nature of the predator problem has been revealed, we can put our wholehearted support behind a program that in the past we fought. Armed with the P scale to cut through all that old predator control bullshit, we can at last get the real villain, the bull himself. And with this column as an inspiration there should be no difficulty deciding what course of action to take next time we run into that rank and ravaging villain. Shoot him!

Dead Wolf is an Arizona writer and a connoisseur of fine music, being especially enamored of The Grateful Dead.

REVIEWS

WORKING THE WOODS WORKING THE SEA: DALMO'MA AN ANTHOLOGY OF NORTHWEST WRITINGS; ed. by Finn Wilcox & Jeremiah Gorsline; 1986; Empty Bowl (Port Townsend); $8; 124pp. (Available by mail from WAY OF THE MOUNTAIN, Box 542, Silverton, CO 81433. Add $1 for postage.)

Out there in the bioregion of Cascadia they've done it! Right here in the midst of the modern industrial growth system they've got a living culture where men and women love the place they live and work. Ten years ago I read Linn House's "Totem Salmon" in *Planet Drum* and have been carrying it with me to every talk or ritual I give, and it alone has been powerful enough to start many on the road to "bioregionalism through rituals." In this new book, Tom Jay, building on "Totem Salmon," quotes three pages of it and carries it even deeper. Linn wrote: "Only salmon, as a species, informs us humans as a species, of the vastness and unity of the North Pacific Ocean and its rim . . . Totemism is a method of perceiving power, goodness and mutuality in *locale* through the recognition and respect for the vitality, spirit and interdependence of *other* species." This *is* non-anthropocentric learning.

In the '60s Linn initiated the first modern "summer solstice" held in Golden Gate Park in San Francisco — the beginning inspiration for people all over the country to reclaim "earth festivals." He continued those up in the Northwest where he did salmon fishing. Linn and Jerry Gorsline, one of the editors of *Working the Woods*, wrote "Future Primitive": "I am transformed by a ceremony residing in the land itself. The place dictates the mandate for human activities there and that mandate can be perceived directly through a ceremony that lives in the woods like an almost tangible creature. I am transformed, transfixed . . . ." I quote the entire thing in my book *Earth Wisdom* because that's who we are — future primitives.

Dalmo'ma VI is the beginning of the title but no reviewer even mentions it; so I must, because it's the heart of it all. A bit more history will explain what I mean and show you the context of the new book: Jaime de Angulo is a man so complex that no one has dared write his biography. He was Spanish but born in Paris; migrated to the US in his teens; was the first psychiatrist for the US Army (1919); lived with the Pit River Indians for 15 years; mastered 20 native American languages; was hired for the University of California at Berkeley by Kroeber (of Ishi fame), to teach courses in Jungian psychiatry and in the mind of primitive man. They fired him the next year because he crossed all boundaries, sexual and otherwise. He wrote the most authentic accounts of Indians, and his favorite was Old Blind Hall who was the most powerful northern California medicine man. And his medicine song was:

At Dalmo'ma near the spring
I dig for wild turnips
At Dalmo-ma in the evening
I turn up but rotten ones.

(*Indians in Overalls* by Jaime de Angulo)

Yet these aren't turnips. They're Camas, a staple root in Indian diets from northern California through Canada — a sweet, wild taste but whites insist on calling them turnips. Up to the 1920s the old women knew how to roast them to turn them into a dark, thick sweet molasses. But the whites complain of the taste. If the Camas has blue flowers it's good to eat; white flowers it's "death Camas" and poison. For Blind Man Hall this medicine song called his "medicine" — his power. This name, 'Dalmo'ma,' on the title of the *Working the Woods* is calling the "medicine" for the people in Cascadia and all of us.

Now, back to Tom Jay and salmon: Tom Jay says of his "Salmon of the Heart," in this book: "Nine years ago I read Linn House's "Totem Salmon." It changed my life then and is the inspiration for much of this essay." In 23 pages of great writing Jay reclaims the word 'resource' for all of us. Here I can only summarize: It's a contraction of the Latin *sub-regere* — to rule or direct from below. "A resource surges back, sent by a hidden power. What the world knows in its heart is that *resources are sacred powers*, deities . . . *Resources* require our prayer and poise, not our machinations." The book has much more about the "dance" of Cascadia's "resource-god," Salmon.

Gary Snyder's "Smokey the Bear Sutra" is in *Working the Woods*, so this classic is finally printed in a book, with Gary telling how the Sutra came to be. In the fall of '69, Synder, just back from Japan; "noting the moment of the Sierra Club Wilderness Conference at some SF downtown hotel the next day, I was seized by the power of the chance and sat down and the Sutra composed itself." He printed it that night, handed the sheets out next day politely saying: "Smokey the Bear literature, Sir." BLM and Forest Service officials accepted them. As Snyder says, "It has a life of its own now."

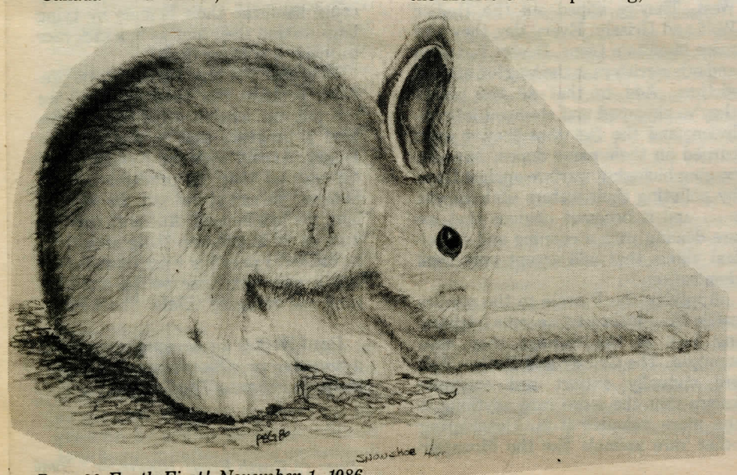
I haven't the space to mention the 17 other writers in here — but all have real, out-in-nature stories behind them. The book has many fine poems. As a sample here is one stanza from Tim McNulty's "Stopping by Stumps on a Snowy Morning," a sarcastically sorrowful poem for Crown Zellerbach Company's clearcut:

These woods were lovely dark and deep,
But the barren ridges are just too steep,
And the failed slopes and the muddy seep,
And the washed-out roads are ours to keep.

The deep essence of this culture of the Northwest is in Hal Hartzell's account of the Hoedads, an Oregon tree planting coop. Trying to finish the planting, they work late into the twilight; then cold, wet and hungry stagger to the "crummy" (ancient bus that carries the planters). It won't start. "Leaving 12 people in the grasp of the first stages of hypothermia." But it was just a few hundred feet to the downhill slope. In an epic struggle - with water in the gas and then one piece failing and then another, they finally get it up the hill. A glorious battle — as good as any in an ancient Greek or Celtic epic because it glorifies when the "collective mind and body began to work," as Hartzell puts it. That's when life is sacred and obscene and humorous all at once. And that's real living.

The book is elegantly designed, from the Morris Graves' painting, "Resilient Young Pine," on the cover to its carefully placed photos, poems and essays all working together: "to re-awaken the religious sense nascent in language; to coax words and their objects back into the sacred realm where the *resource* is what we listen to and for; where our 'tongues' are testing sacramental food, and our speech is 'soul food,'" as Tom Jay tells us. *Working the Woods* shows how this real culture is growing — and how they work, and how they laugh, and legends of the great ones among tree planters, and poetry. With bards, legends and humor all centered on Nature you've got a living culture! And that's why this book is a must for everyone of you trying to "reinhabit your place."

Reviewed by Dolores LaChapelle.



A GLINT AT THE KINDLING; a cassette tape by Robin Williamson; $9.50.

In his book, *Republic*, Plato set out to "kill the bards" to clear the way for "intellectuals." Only recently have we begun to grasp the depth of the disasters which Platonic "ideas" and "ideals" have caused to both nature and human beings. We need bards to get us back down to the ground of our being — where nature and human consciousness are but different aspects of the one consciousness. This is what a bard can do for you and the land! I consider this tape the most important item I've carried in my yearly *Way of the Mountain Newsletter*. The bard piece on it is FIVE DENIALS ON MERLIN'S GRAVE. At every workshop in which I've played this, the response has been overwhelming. Tears of joy streaming from the eyes of men and women both, because he puts you together with the land so deeply.

Robin plays old-time British music and while on tour in the US he began the poem out of sheer longing for the "old ways." He finished it back in Britain. It's based on five stages of ancient British history and contrasts dusty historical so-called facts with folklore and legends that are "always there." As he puts it, "our grave and Christian cleric in alarm/ avert their pens . . . But poetry declares it differently/ older yet and lovelier far, this mystery and I will not forget."

For potential young bards, this is a complete course on how to do it. The tape is titled*A Glint at the Kindling* because we don't yet even have the kindling going to light the fire; but we do have this first glint showing us how to begin.

It grows deeper every time you hear it. I've listened uncounted times and always tears come when I hear this section: ". . . but long before we ever took the names/ of English, Scottish, Welsh, or Irish/ and long before . . . language cracked/ there was interchange and colloquy and conversation upon this world/ and standing stones remain to bear it testimony/ from China to the Americas . . ." Robin tells of conversation between all living beings — humans and others. He uses the harp for the most poignant parts. The other side of the tape is old-time British music.

A book, *Five Denials on Merlin's Grave: A Poem With Annotations*, goes with the tape. (Book costs $7.) The book gives the complete text of the poem. It is illustrated and has notes and bibliography from the ancient records. It includes information never before collected in one place.

Tape and book together cost $16.50; add 75 cents postage. Tape or book alone — add 69 cents postage. Order from Way of the Mountain Center, Box 542, Silverton, CO 81433.

Reviewed by Dolores LaChapelle. Dolores' ***Way of the Mountain Newsletter*** *is a superb collection of short book reviews of the extremely important deep ecology books she sells.*

DWELLERS IN THE LAND: THE BIOREGIONAL VISION; Kirkpatrick Sale; 1985; Sierra Club Books, 730 Polk St., S.F., CA 94109; $14.95 hard cover; 195pp.

Dwellers in the Land will be one of the most widely-read books from the bioregional movement since Peter Berg's *Reinhabiting a Separate Country* (late '70s). If one accepts the bioregional movement as one of the most important of the movements to save Mother Earth, as many of us do, one will see this as one of the more important environmental books of recent years. Sale's latest book is well-written and will be effective at gaining acceptance for bioregionalism from a broad spectrum of progressive thinkers, especially those from academic backgrounds. In *Dwellers*, Sale tells the healthful Gaea (yes, 'Gaea,' Sale explains, is a proper spelling) myth of Earth as Mother, debunks the modern myth based on technological science allied with industrial capitalism, and outlines a third view — a new myth or paradigm — reincorporating positive aspects of the Gaea myth into a vision of a planet of bioregions. In effect, Sale's book says a fitting farewell to the nation state.

Sale's first chapter lucidly describes variations of the myth of Earth as Mother Goddess. Most cultures prior to 1000 BC lived in an enchanted world: Earth was alive; all that dwelt therein (rocks, plants, animals, etc.) were enspirited. For the ancient Greeks, Earth was Gaea; for the Babylonians, Ishatar, etc.

Sale's second chapter describes the demise of the goddess myths and their eventual replacement (never complete replacement) by the science/technology/capitalism paradigm. Sales effectively condemns the sundering by this second paradigm of humans from Gaea — from nature. However, in what may be the weakest portion of his book, Sale apparently succumbs to the pressure to include the typical, nauseating caveat warning us not to condemn all scientific progress. Sale writes, "I think one would want to say on balance the world is a better place for our knowledge of hygiene . . . or electricity, if not of nuclear fission, chemical defoliation . . . one cannot dismiss the achievements won, no matter how high the attendant price." (21) Some EF!ers might say that this is unmitigated swill. (Indeed, in conversation Kirkpatrick has shown his deeply ecological sense by denouncing computers, saying population *and technology* must decrease, and saying that for communication between bioregions letters will suffice.) Perhaps Sale was prudent for only criticizing science mildly so that he would not alienate readers. While we do hope to see moderates converted into bioregionalists, many EF!ers would have preferred that he not soften his criticism of technological science.

In chapters 4-8, Sale skillfully sketches his bioregional vision. He quotes from a moving book by an Irish author known as AE, written during the Irish revolution: ". . . I believe our best wisdom does not come from without, but arises in the soul and is an emanation of the Earth spirit, a voice speaking directly to us as dwellers in this land." To which Sale adds, ". . . the alternative to the peril the industrio-scientific paradigm has placed us in . . . is simply to become dwellers in the land."

"We must try to regain the spirit of the ancient Greeks, once again comprehending the earth as a living creature and contriving the modern equivalent of the worship of Gaea." (41)

"[T]o become dwellers in the land . . . is to understand *place* . . ." It is to know the animals, plants, seasons, waters, etc. of the region; and to work in harmony with these elements. It is to appreciate the past and present human cultures of the area. Bioregionalists use these factors to roughly and somewhat arbitrarily determine the area of a particular bioregion. Translated from the root Greek word 'bio' and the Latin word 'regere,' 'bioregion' means "a life-territory, a place defined by its life forms, its topography and its biota, rather than by human dictates; a region governed by nature, not legislature." Since the word was first used more than 10 years ago by Peter Berg and Raymond Dasmann, their group Planet Drum and 60 other bioregional groups have formed, and have met twice at North American Bioregional Congresses. (See article on NABC II in last issue.)

According to Sale, of primary importance in all human constructs is scale. Sale wisely notes that people will behave in an ecologically sound manner not because it is "the moral, but rather the practical thing to do." This only

works at a small level, not global or national, because humans have "only a small view of the world and a limited comprehension of how to act within it." Sale explains that the community — a closely interacting group of not more than 10,000 people — has for millenia been the basic building block of human society, as well as of populations of other species. It is at the community level that self-sufficiency is to be sought. Furthermore, in accordance with ecological principles, which healthy societies must follow, communities and larger bioregional divisions will tend to divide if they grow, thus maintaining their essential smallness.

Sale says that bioregions "can be seen to be like Chinese boxes, one within another." (56) The largest bioregion is the ecoregion, defined by general vegetation and soil types and typically encompassing several hundred thousand square miles. The Sonaran Desert is an example of an ecoregion. Ecoregions contain smaller bioregions, distinguished by physiographic features such as mountain ranges, called georegions. California's Central Valley is a georegion within the northern California ecoregion. Some georegions can be further divided into morphoregions identified by special land forms, and human developments to which the land forms give rise. Sale cites human settlements, such as Middletown, in the georegion of the Connecticut River Basin as examples of morphoregions. Sale notes that these three levels of bioregion correspond closely with Indians' traditional levels of organization; e.g., a sub-tribe inhabiting a particular georegion within an ecoregion occupied by the tribe as a whole. He suggests that human cultures re-identify with and determine the countours of their own bioregions.

After his chapter on scale, Sale devotes chapters to bioregional economy, polity, and society. These four chapters are highly informative and less excessively wordy than are the writings of most authors. In these chapters and the subsequent chapters on past, present, and future manifestations of regionalism; Sale efectively uses historical and anthropological information to support his plea for a world of biologically and culturally diverse bioregions. Sale shows that the US is particularly suited for bioregionalism insofar as our cultural variations have historically been shaped by environmental variations. He then explains that movements for regional autonomy are progressing throughout the world. In short, bioregionalism already has solid roots here and abroad, and will continue to grow.

As an interesting aside it is worth noting that Sale favorably cites Murray Bookchin's view that in nature and in earlier and healthier human communities hierarchies are absent, and "libertarian" relations prevail. In accordance with this view — which is shared by many anarchists — Sale criticizes Andrew Bard Schmookler's "parable of the tribes" as a "misreading of the archaeological and anthropological record." (125) Sale believes self-sufficient and self-governing communities have and can again coexist peacefully.

Overall, Sale's book is somewhat academic in tone but is a valuable contribution to the bioregional movement. The bioregional movement can well afford to gain more supporters both from intellectuals who don't yet live close to the land — but who may be impressed enough with this book to consider reinhabiting the land — and from people who have already moved back onto the land — who may find this book too theoretical. Sale's book might benefit from a greater stress on the need for people in all bioregions to simplify their lifestyles, and drastically reduce their numbers and their use of advanced technology. It would also benefit from a more radical and harsh critique of modern technology, and from more concrete examples of how various dwellers are actually living bioregionalism. Yet these weaknesses are outweighed by the book's strengths. Perhaps its greatest strength is that it may inspire in many a new appreciation of place and the desire to protect their own place.

Reviewed by John Davis

Note: Kirkpatrick Sale's article on the new ecologists — including Earth First!ers — has been published in the November issue of ***Mother Jones.*** *Given Kirkpatrick's understanding of and respect for deep ecology, it is not surprising that Dave Foreman describes this article as one of the best discussions of EF! yet published in a widely-circulated periodical.*

KILLING THE HIDDEN WATERS: The Slow Destruction of Water Resources in the American Southwest; Charles Bowden; U of TX Press, Box 7819, Austin, TX 78713; 137pp.; $7.95 paper.

It was with great trepidation that I commenced reading this book, expecting a dry report filled with depressing statistics. How wrong I was! This book is no dryer than its subject matter. Bowden does not merely explain the modern water crisis; equally importantly, he describes how traditional human inhabitants of the Southwest lived in balance with the fragile hydrological cycles of this arid region. In short, Bowden's book is well-written and concise, yet replete with absorbing anthropological, hydrological, and environmental information.

Part I of Bowden's book deals with the Indians of the Sonoran Desert (which lies in Arizona, the southeast edge of California, and Sonora and the Baja Peninsula of Mexico), whose ingenious ways of procuring food and water enabled them to thrive in areas with as little as three inches of average annual precipitation (as compared with about a 40" average for much of the eastern US). The main Indian groups included the Seri (in Mexico), and the riverine Pima, Sand Papago, and Papago or Desert O-otam — the latter three of which dwelt in what is now southern Arizona and were culturally related. The Yuman and Apache tribes lived on the western and northern fringes of the Sonoran Desert. To give an idea of these Indians' ecologically sound ways of life and Bowden's great descriptive ability, we quote from pages 39 and 41:

The Papago were a Piman people, and the Piman people stretched across the land south of the Gila River for a thousand miles (Spicer, E.H., 1962). Broken into various groupings (Upper Pima, Sobaipuri, Lower Pima, Tepehaun), their worlds were separate, their languages mutually intelligible. The aboriginal population of what is roughly the Sonoran desert has been given at 155,000 . . . . Pimeria Alta, that part of the desert from Magdalena, Sonora, to the Gila and west to the Gulf, held maybe 20,000 riverine people, and 10,000 desert Papago. In all, perhaps 30,000 humans spread out over 60,000 square miles . . . .

This world without a groundwater problem drove people to four basic responses. Those lucky enough to dwell in spots of constant water and steady food supplies lived in villages and pueblos. The Hopi and Rio Grande groups typify this possibility for the southwest as a whole. In Pimeria Alta, the riverine Pima on the Gila approximated it. Without dependable living streams, the humans tended toward floodwater farming, summer and winter villages, and a mixed diet of cultivated and gathered food. Such groups were called the rancheria people. This was the way followed by the bulk of the O-otam. A third option was the life of the band exemplified by the Apache. This strategy entailed limited farming and almost endless motion in quest of food. Strip away the slight efforts at cultivation and the final choice emerges: the nonagricultural band. In the entire southwest, only a few thousand humans at best attempted this kind of existence, where nothing was grown and everything was clubbed, foraged, or stolen. To face the natural rhythms of the Sonoran desert independent of crops was to risk death. The Seris of Sonora were the masters of this life. . . . The Seri's sole mode of food storage was the 'second harvest.' They saved their feces so that undigested seeds could be reconsumed.

So far as can be learned, the Seri lived in balance with their resources: zero population growth, zero economic growth, a steady-state society . . . .

To discuss how modern society, unlike Indian societies, destroys the water (and thereby whole ecosystems) of the Southwest, Bowden skillfully provides a context; from pages 7 and 10-11:

What man tinkers with is a tiny part of a huge hydrosphere. Estimates place the total amount of water girdling the earth at around 1500 cubic kilometers — visually a depth of 3000 meters spread evenly over the globe. Only about 5% of this moisture is fresh, and 75% of this small portion is locked away from man in snow, ice, or permafrost. Humans can reach about 1% of the total hydrosphere. Some of this accessible water is in vegetation, rivers, and lakes. But the bulk, 99%, is in the ground at depths of less than 1000 meters: groundwater. . . .

. . . First, the inevitable nature of groundwater in such regions: it is essentially a nonrenewable resource. Then, once the decision has been made to pump this easily depletable resource, the crude truths of energy assert their importance. Take the ability of water to combine with other materials. What this means is that left in the ground for millennia (a common occurrence in fossil deposits of arid regions), water molecules combine with the minerals of the earth. The result is that desert aquifers are often of low quality — brackish, saline, hard. The way to alter this condition is by adding energy. Humans call this desalination or filtration. But this expenditure to change the quality of water is a fixed cost of doing business. Another inescapable cost is the price of lifting the water to the surface. Technology can change the resource for the lift; the lift remains forever.

Once the water is lifted to the surface, there are still more bills to pay for using groundwater in such regions. Sunlight can alter water from a fluid to a gas. But solar energy is inadequate to vaporize the minerals in the water. In arid land irrigations systems this has led to a world wide problem called salinity. The sun evaporates the water and leaves the salt. Since humans by a massive energy investment have concentrated huge amounts of water on small plots of earth (irrigated agriculture), they have also concentrated huge amounts of salt. Left untended the fields go sterile.

Dealing with salinity calls for large investments of energy. Driving the salt down below the root zone of cultivated plants calls for about 20% more water being delivered to the field. This solution is expensive and short term. The salt driven down concentrates in the groundwater, making it increasingly saline. This impasse can be avoided by installing drainage pipes (yet one more investment) to carry salt-laden water from the field. But this salt water goes somewhere. In the Colorado basin of the US it went to Mexico and ruined farming land. Now a treaty is forcing the US to pay for a large desalination project at the border.

Waterlogging is another woe attendant upon using groundwater. After

being pumped to the surface, the water sometimes fails to sink into the earth at a sufficiently fast rate. The desert field becomes a local swamp. The solution is to put in more pumps driven by more energy to remove the water. Having paid the toll charge for salinity and waterlogging, another expense confronts exploitation of desert aquifers: subsidence. It is common parlance to state that groundwater left in the ground is out of the hydrological cycle and pretty much useless to man. When this water is pumped from the desert basins the bit of work it was accomplishing sometimes becomes obvious. It was holding up the earth. Drained of water, the soil contracts and land sinks in an irregular and tearing fashion. Mexico City is a good example; huge buildings have cracked as they sank into the earth. . . .

Part II of Bowden's book discusses the High Plains of West Texas, the Llano Estacado. There, Commanches hunted Buffalo for centuries without damaging ecosystems; there, white settlers in a century have wreaked havoc on ecosystems by means of ranching, growing crops, mining oil, and mining water. Texans are draining the Ogallala Aquifer so fast that using it for irrigation will become unfeasible within a few decades, Bowden says.

Part III consists largely of an uncommonly clear explanation of the differences between renewable and non-renewable resources, and what these differences entail for human societies. Bowden offers no original solutions to our water crises, instead simply reminding us of the obvious: we all must reduce our water consumption.

Having completed *Killing the Hidden Waters*, I felt great remorse that the white invaders of the Southwest were utterly repulsed by the Apaches and Commanches. My one complaint about Bowden's superb book is that he seems overly restrained in his criticism of modern societies' exploitation of water. Nevertheless, if good books had the power they deserve, this one could stop dams.

Killing the Hidden Waters is available from Earth First! Books in Tucson by mail order.

Reviewed by Australopithecus.

continued on page 22

Denali — Wild or Park?

by Michael Frome

If there is one place in America where wildlife should be abundantly evident, that place is Denali National Park in Alaska. Denali is known the world over as a sanctuary where wildlife is wholly protected, with "rights" and "freedom" in its own domain.

That is why the national park was established. It was not for scientific study, touristic viewing, commercial profit or padding the federal payroll. All these came later. When Charles Sheldon arrived in Alaska in 1906 his interest was in the wild bighorn sheep. After living with wild nature and writing his classic book, *The Wilderness of Denali*, he conceived the idea of a great national park. Sheldon recognized this as the only way to save the majestic scenery and wildlife in the face of oncoming growth.

Thus the park was established by act of Congress in 1917. First as Mt. McKinley National Park and since 1980 as Denali, it is the foremost destination of visitors to Alaska. The gleaming mountain, the sense of vastness and the feeling for wildlife ranging free and unfettered — these together make it the symbol of Alaska. In a way, however, it depends on how you look at it. While visiting the north country during the summer of 1985, I talked with Walter J. Hickel, former governor and former Secretary of the Interior. "They say Denali is overrun, but it's overrun only in the area where you're forced to stay," Hickel said. "There are millions of acres that haven't seen a human, and there ought to be a way of viewing it without damaging the landscape. National parks, wilderness and wildlife areas are close to the heart of the American people, but they become so overprotected and misregulated as to cause an adverse effect. When I was secretary, I said, 'We're going to build an $8 million lodge deep in the park to accomodate a couple of hundred people overnight.' I want the people to have the opportunity to see the mountain, to have a feel for the park. But the hotel at the railroad terminal is not Mt. McKinley and for 90% of the people who come up here, that's all they see."

Hickel has a point. Denali is on the itinerary of all the tour groups trekking with buttons, badges and baggage through inland Alaska. Most don't even get to stay at the railroad hotel inside the park (which isn't much to brag about anyway), but use others that have mushroomed on private land outside the entrance. They take a day's bus tour and may never see the mountain, generally shrouded in cloud cover, or much wildlife either. Then they move on to the next point on the itinerary.

But my friend Charlie Ott, whom I also consulted in Alaska, views the scene differently. Charlie is one of the world's finest photographers of animals in the wild. He worked for years as a maintenance man for Denali Park until his retirement in 1970, all the while taking magnificent pictures that have illustrated books and won awards.

He could do this because of his feeling for animals. He told me: "First of all, I believe that wildlife has rights, too, and I don't violate them any more than I absolutely must. Generally I walk slowly toward them and act like another grazing creature. I don't agree with those who say you must get down on your hands and knees and sneak up on them. You're entirely out of your element, you're in their element. I've never seen a sneaker yet that the wildlife didn't know was coming. I just walk slowly up to them. And I've sat many hours in blinds . . . "

In Charlie's early years in the park, wildlife was easy to see in large numbers and diverse species. Those days are gone, maybe not forever but certainly for our time, as a direct consequence of placing priority on human desires and demands. First came the 90-mile road through the park, then the mainstem highway linking Denali with Anchorage and Fairbanks, Alaska's major population centers. Within 30 years, the yearly number of visitors rose from fewer than 1000 to more than 400,000. Charlie holds the National Park Service largely responsible:

"There is probably less than a quarter of the wildlife left in the park as compared with the 50s. Park Service people in charge couldn't foresee the impact because they didn't have their eyes open. All they could see was big figures—high visitor numbers that look good on paper. They had some of the dangdest ideas, like putting a big speedway through the park so that ten times as many people could see the beautiful scenery 12 times as fast."

Ultimately the Park Service instituted restrictions on the park road and installed a system of shuttle bus travel, allowing people to get on and off along the way. The idea appears attractive, except when considered from the viewpoint of wildlife protection.

"The influence of human activity is driving wildlife back," Charlie says. "Some species, like the bear and wolverine, are intolerant of neighbors; as human beings come in, they intrude on other animals' territory. The effect is stress, more than biologists and all of us realize. I keep in touch with the literature and I have never run across a meaningful study on the stress of animals. They are starting it here, but I doubt it's serious enough. The park holds up the buses as the answer, but I think they are an abomination. They are noisy, they stink, and you can see them seven miles off."

Denali National Park in 1980 was enlarged from 1.9 million acres to six million acres, but the pressures upon it have increased many times over. I sympathize with park administrators for the difficulties they face, but not for their failure to warn the American people that we are losing our heritage. At Denali we are losing it to mining, poaching, uncontrolled strip development along the boundary that deprives the park of its buffer, and the failure of the state of Alaska to recognize and defend its own stake in this world sanctuary.

From the time of Charles Sheldon, I doubt anyone has known the park better than the late Adolph Murie. He spent 25 summers in Denali as a biologist from 1922 to 1970. In 1939 he walked 1700 miles from April to October in his field study of the relationship between the wolf and Dall sheep. He returned the following year for 15 months in the field, traveling on skis in winter. After the mid-50s, he concentrated on grizzly bears, often following a family for days at a time so that he knew and understood each member.

On November 8, 1956, Murie sent a 14-page memorandum to the park superintendent commenting on the plans for Mission 66, the ten-year national park system development program. He urged open discussion, with guidance and assistance from conservationists and others outside the Park Service. "I am sure that many of those who are planning recognize that our big task is to preserve the wilderness spirit," he wrote. "But there will be wide difference in planning, nevertheless. Some will seek ends that are destructive to the wilderness, feeling that the ends justify the additional intrusion. Some will think that the highway should be intensively labeled like a museum, even though each label will detract from the wilderness. Some will want to bring accommodations into the midst of the scenery, instead of a simple and delicate approach from the edge of things. Some will want to have structures on a prominence, rather than tucked away unobtrusively."

For his troubles, Murie was brushed off by the then park superintendent, Duane D. Jacobs, with this response: "I think it quite reasonable for anyone of your many years of intimate knowledge of McKinley as purely a wilderness area to be somewhat alarmed as Mt. McKinley National Park finally emerges across the threshold of a new era, that of a great national park set aside for the use and enjoyment of the people, which is soon to receive this intended use and enjoyment."

I think that Hickel may have been right when he said to me, "A national park is a place people love to go and look at and walk through and see. If you want to keep a certain area as wilderness, then call it that, but don't call it a national park." Maybe we should have a new category of public lands, establishing Denali National Wilderness as the first unit administered by a new agency, the United States Wilderness Service, staffed by wilderness protectors.

In *Mammals of Mount McKinley*, Adolph Murie described the beautiful tableaux: "A drive from the Nenana River, the eastern boundary, to Wonder Lake, some 90 miles to the west and directly north of Mount McKinley, is always a fresh adventure. No two days are the same. One day we may see more grizzlies than usual; on another trip we may be especially fortunate to catch sight of a wolf or a wolverine. It is desirable to drive slowly and to stop occasionally to examine the landscape for animal life —the mountains for Dall sheep, the river bars and passes for grizzlies and caribou, and the water for birds, beaver or moose.

He wrote in this vein because he could perceive mingled with the landscape the spirit of the primeval, a sphere in which intangible values of the human heart and soul take precedence. There is no reason, in our advanced, sophisticated civilization to settle for one thing less.

Michael Frome is, according to Dave Foreman, the most prominent environmental journalist in the US. This article was previously published in Defenders, the magazine of Defenders of Wildlife. It is printed here with permission of the author.

REVIEWS (cont)

CONSERVING BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY IN OUR NATIONAL FORESTS: prepared by seven authors in The Ecological Society of America, for The Wilderness Society (TWS), 1400 Eye St. NW, Wash., DC 20005; 1986; 105pp.; free from TWS.

Conserving Biological Diversity is a useful and informative book for amateur ecologists and activists who are not yet fully versed in the field of lawful forest advocacy. The book is a worthwhile project of TWS, and it is commendable of TWS to offer it free. It is capable of making environmentalists more effective in the effort to stop the Forest Service from abusing our National Forests.

The philosophical outlook of *Conserving Biological Diversity* is, unfortunately, typically anthropocentric; this *is* a book from the reform environmental movement. In listing arguments in favor of biological diversity (an exercise somewhat akin to listing arguments against murder why must we *prove* what everyone should *assume*?), the authors only briefly suggest that perhaps preservation of naturally diverse ecosystems need not be justified on human grounds. However, in terms of utilitarian arguments, the book argues very effectively in behalf of biological diversity.

Among the strongest parts of the book are those in which the authors show the complexities involved with the idea of diversity. They show, as Reed Noss did so effectively in our Litha 86 issue, that maximizing the number of species in an ecosystem is not necessarily desirable. They also effectively explain different stages in forest succession and what stages benefit what species. However, unlike Noss, they seem unwilling to accept the idea that an ecosystem unaltered by humans is inherently superior to an altered ecosystem. For Noss, nature is the measure of all things; for these authors, *Homo sapiens* is the measure of all things.

Another fascinating and valuable part of the book is the chapter describing seven rare species or subspecies and how Forest Service practices affect them. These species — Oregon Silverspot Butterfly, Kirtland's Warbler, Red-cockaded Woodpecker, Northern Spotted Owl, Noonday Snail, Modoc Sucker, and Robbins' Cinquefoil — are threatened to varying degrees by the Forest Service. For instance, Forest Service proposed plans would allow the number of Red-cockaded Woodpecker colonies (pairs and their young, which live in Texas) to increase from 3337 to 7500 but would reduce Northern Spotted Owl pairs (in the Northwest) from

Grey Seals Under Attack

by David Orton

INTRODUCTION: In June of 1982, a small news item "Dead mammals cause problems," appeared in *The Chronicle Herald*, the provincial newspaper in Nova Scotia, Canada. The story noted that the Pictou Municipal Council wanted to know who was bureaucratically responsible for the disposal of Grey Seal carcasses washed up on the beaches of Pictou County. The carcasses were left to rot after having had their jawbones removed by bounty hunters. In the news item, there was no concern expressed by the Council for *why* Grey Seals were being killed. The problem was seen as one of garbage disposal and who would pay for it. This article was my introduction to the killing of Grey Seals in the Atlantic Region.

In July of this year, Allan Billard of the Eastern Fishermen's Federation launched a campaign to create a climate of opinion to allow a "cull" of Grey Seals on Sable Island. Sable is about 180 miles from Nova Scotia and a relative sanctuary for Grey and Harbor Seals. The Federation is a government-funded organization whose main role seems to have been to oppose the attempt to unionize inshore fishermen. During the past few years, Billard has vociferously advocated the killing of Grey and Harbor Seals on Canada's east coast. The Federation's most recent campaign — which is asking for a government sponsored kill of 30,000-40,000 Grey Seals — was rapidly endorsed by newpapers, the Nova Scotia Federation of Labor, and the Nova Scotia Chamber of Commerce. A flood of stories appeared as a result of the boat services provided for a compliant media, recording the shooting of Grey Seals for bounty payments. Billard was quoted as saying killing Grey Seals was like "shooting rats at a dump."

"NORMAL" MANAGEMENT: From which call for an increased kill of Grey Seals. A 1981 document from CAFSAC, *Management of Grey Seals*, advocated reducing the population of Grey Seals by 50% because of the codworm problem, despite admitting, "It is an intractable scientific problem to prove that the increasing population of Grey Seals is the causative factor in the increase in incidence of cod worm."

The Nova Scotia media has directed a campaign against Grey and Harbor Seals, featuring the industry, federal and provincial government biologists, politicians, and fishermen's organizations. In 1984, the codworm even suffered a name change to "sealworm," to make it easier for the public to accept the killing of seals.

ANALYSIS: The following factors are significant for understanding the Grey Seal situation on the east coast of Canada. Fisheries managment appears often non-existent. There is overfishing of most species. There is fraud in the reporting of catch returns. Companies and fishermen's organizations continually demand increased quotas and break existing regulations.

A dangerous development for all marine mammals is the ongoing thrust to privatize the fishery. The 1982 Report of the Task Force on Atlantic Fisheries, *Navigating Troubled Waters*, stated that the most fundamental problems of fisheries management arise because of the "common property" nature of the fishery. The capitalist solution was to give "each fisherman some form of property right to a certain amount of fish." Of course, the Report does not suggest any allocation to marine mammals or sea birds. The fishing industry shows that the capitalist system is by nature anti-ecological. The perverse logic of the system is that fishing companies must expand or fold.

The codworm's life cycle is largely unknown, hence targeting the Grey Seal is unwarranted. Other species of marine mammals — such as Harbor Porpoises, Harp and Harbor Seals — are hosts to the codworm. A partial justification for the bounty on Harbor Seals (which began in 1927, and was discontinued in 1976 after this species had disappeared in many areas) was that it was needed to reduce the codworm incidence. Yet, codworms are no danger to human health and can be removed by hand in the processing of fish. They are an aesthetic problem for some people. Others believe that the presence of live codworms shows that the fish is fresh. Codworms increase costs for fish processors but provide welcome employment for fish plant workers.

Canada's east coast fishery does have a quality problem, resulting in the rejection by US buyers of much of the fish catch; but the Grey Seal has undeservedly become a scapegoat. While the codworm is a marketing problem for the fishing companies, it is a minor one — of far less importance than the presence in fish caught of: bones and fins, offodour, and bacteria.

Farley Mowatt, author of *Sea of Slaughter*, has pointed that Federal Fisheries is engaged in massive biocide against marine mammals. Defenders of seals must see the links between the attacks against the various seal species and relate these to the overall strategy of the Canadian federal government. Campaigns should not focus only on protection of one seal species. Along with showing the glaring inconsistencies in the arguments supporting the seal killing, we should insist that humans learn to share the fishery with marine mammals and birds, even if this means reductions in the commercial fishery. Culling of any seal species must be strongly opposed.

Apart from bounty hunting, the federal Canadian Fisheries "Conservation and Protection" Branch has an annual culling program to slaughter all accessible pups and adults at the known Grey Seal colonies, apart from Sable Island, during the December to February pupping season. Federal Fisheries data show that from 1967 to 1983, 17,373 Grey Seals were killed in these annual culls (on Camp Island, Bowen's Ledge, Tuffin Island and elsewhere).

Grey Seals have also been killed for "research" purposes. For example, in 1983, unknown to the public, 240 Grey Seals were killed on Sable Island "to investigate seasonal fluctuations in cod worm burdens of Grey Seals." Other Nazi-type research has been experiments with Grey Seals on Sable, using infertility drugs to control their numbers.

An extensive tagging program has been undertaken with Grey Seals. Between 1977 and 1984, 28,389 Grey Seals were tagged on Sable Island and on the ice in St. Georges Bay. Branding of Grey Seals was carried out from 1963 to 1978. Tagged seals are worth an additional $10 and branded seals $50, on top of the regular bounty payments. Apart from the obvious pain and injury inflicted through tagging and branding, there is great disturbance of the nursing pups and females.

INCREASED KILLING: During the last six years, the Canadian Atlantic Fisheries Scientific Advisory Committee (CAFSAC) has issued documents 1976 to 1982 federal Fisheries data shows that 5141 Grey Seals were killed by bounty hunters. For an adult Grey Seal a $50 bounty is paid, and $25 for seals one year old or under. Bounty figures understate the actual numbers killed. Some Fisheries data shows that of Grey Seals shot at by fishermen and presumed wounded or killed, only about 25% were recovered.

David Orton offers further information for those interested in helping marine mammals in Canada. Write to him at: R.R.#3, Saltsprings, Pictou County, Nova Scotia, CANADA; or call 902-925-2514.

GAIA MEDITATIONS

by Joanna Macy and John Seed

What are you? What am I? Intersecting cycles of water, earth, air and fire, that's what I am, that's what you are.

Water — blood, lymph, mucus, sweat, tears, inner oceans tugged by the moon, tides within and tides without. Streaming fluids floating our cells, washing and nourishing through endless riverways of gut and vein and capillary. Moisture pouring in and through and out of you, of me, in the vast poem of the hydrological cycle. That's what you are, that's what I am.

Earth — matter made from rock and soil. It too pulled by the moon as the magma circulates through the planet heart and roots suck molecules into biology. Earth pours through us, replacing each cell in the body every seven years. Ashes to ashes, dust to dust, we incorporate and excrete the earth, are made from earth. That's what I am, that's what you are.

Air — the gaseous realm, the atmosphere, the planet's membrane. The inhale and the exhale. Breathing out carbon dioxide to the trees and breathing in their fresh exudations. Oxygen kissing each cell awake, atoms dancing in orderly metabolism, interpenetrating. That dance of the air cycle, breathing the universe in and out again, is what you are is what I am.

Fire — fire, from our sun that fuels all life, drawing up plants and raising the waters to the sky to fall again replenishing. The inner furnace of your metabolism burns with the fire of the Big Bang that first sent matter-energy spinning through space and time. And the same fire as the lightning that flashed into the primordial soup catalyzing the birth of organic life.

You were there, I was there, for each cell of our bodies is descended in an unbroken chain from that event. Through the desire of atom for molecule, of molecule for cell, of cell for organism. In that spawning of forms death was born, born simultaneously with sex, before we divided from the plant realm. So in our sexuality we can feel ancient stirrings that connect us with plant as well as animal life. We come from them in an unbroken chain — through fish learning to walk the land, feeling scales turning to wings, through the great migrations in the ages of ice.

We have been but recently in human form. If Earth's whole history were compressed into 24 hours beginning at midnight, organic life would begin only at 5PM . . . mammals emerge at 11:30 . . . and from amongst them at only seconds to midnight, our species.

In our long planetary journey we have taken far more ancient forms than these we now wear. Some of those forms we remember in our mother's womb, wear vestigial tail and gills, grow fins for hands.

Countless times in that journey we died to old forms, let go of old ways, allowing new ones to emerge. But nothing is ever lost. Though forms pass, all returns. Each worn-out cell consumed, recycled . . . through mosses, leeches, bird of prey . . . .

Think of your next death. Will your flesh and bones back into the cycle. Surrender. Love the plump worms you will become. Launder your weary being through the fountain of life.

Beholding you, I behold as well all the different creatures that compose you — the mitochondria in the cells, the intestinal bacteria, the life teeming on the surface of the skin. The great symbiosis that is you. The incredible coordination and cooperation of countless beings. You are that, too, just as your body is part of a much larger symbiosis, living in wider reciprocities. Be conscious of that give-and-take when you move among trees. Breathe your pure carbon dioxide to a leaf and sense it breathing fresh oxygen back to you.

Remember again and again the old old cycles of partnership. Draw on them in this time of trouble. By your very nature and the journey you have made, there is in you deep knowledge of belonging. Draw on it now in this time of fear. You have earth-bred wisdom of your interexistence with all that is. Take courage in it now and power, that we may help each other awaken in this time of peril.

*Joanna Macy is the author of the highly acclaimed book, **Despair and Empowerment in the Nuclear Age.** John Seed is our Australian EF! contact and one of the world's experts on rainforest preservation. Joanna and John will conduct a Council of All Beings at the 87 RRR.*

2500 to 1150.

In conclusion, *Conserving Biological Diversity* can benefit environmentalists not because it helps us rethink our relationship to Earth — as deep ecologists think is necessary — but because it concisely explains the effects of Forest Service mismanagement on biological diversity, and demonstrates arguments to prove that Forest Service practices are ecologically wrong. Amateur activists seeking to preserve National Forests through the forest planning process should read this book.

Reviewed by Australopithecus

DEVALL DISSECTS "ENVIRONMENTAL AGENDA FOR THE FUTURE"

AN ENVIRONMENTAL AGENDA FOR THE FUTURE; Island Press, Covelo, CA; 1985; by "leaders of America's foremost environmental organizations."

The 1980 presidential election was a decisive turning point for the reform environmental movement in the US. During the previous two decades, since John Kennedy appointed Stewart Udall as his Secretary of Interior, environmental reformers enjoyed continuing access to and success with the Executive branch of the federal government. New National Parks were created, including the Redwood National Park, during the Johnson administration, and environmental groups obtained changes in federal policies concerning wildlife, forests, air and water. Even the Nixon administration issued some favorable executive orders concerning environmental quality, and Nixon signed the National Environmental Policy Act (even though reform environmental groups did not actively lobby for this major environmental legislation). During the Carter administration, heads of many federal environmental agencies were recruited from among the leaders of major environmental organizations.

The election of Ronald Reagan changed the personnel in federal agencies and the philosophy of the whole Executive branch. During his campaign, Reagan attacked virtually every major conservation act passed by Congress in this century. Reagan proposed selling millions of acres of federal land to private developers and his administration began programs to lease as much of the oil, gas, mineral and timber rights to federal lands as possible.

Reagan appointed James Watt as his Secretary of Interior. Watt, a right-wing Christian fundamentalist, was an outspoken critic of the reform environmental movement and of liberals. In one famous speech he said, "there are two kinds of people — liberals and Americans." Watt became a convenient target for reform environmental groups. These groups dared not attack Reagan directly, given his enormous popularity, but they began an anti-Watt petition drive, demanding that Reagan fire Watt.

The anti-Watt campaign recruited new members for the reform groups. By 1984, the Sierra Club had over 350,000 members, fewer than the one million members of the National Rifle Association, but an historic high for the Club. But while increasing their membership in the early '80s, national environmental groups were losing political effectiveness and losing their vision for the movement.

The Reagan administration effectively used the powers of the Executive branch to appoint persons to agencies charged with enforcing environmental laws who took an anti-regulation, pro-business position. Also, the Administration cut budgets for federal environmental agencies, such as the EPA, by about 40%, much greater cuts than those given to other federal agencies. Reagan appointees began dismantling environmental programs, and scandals by Reagan appointees in the EPA led to forced resignations from the EPA.

By 1984 reform environmentalism was in a crisis in the US. Philosophers and critics developing themes suggested by a deep ecology perspective, had effectively criticized the premises upon which reform environmentalism is based. Writers coming from anarchist, communal traditions, such as Murray Bookchin in his 1982 book, *The Ecology of Freedom*, criticized the hierarchical politics of reform environmentalism. And in mainstream politics, environmental issues were ignored or environmentalists were successfully labeled "just another interest group." The "limits to economic growth" theories of the 1970s and the environmental activism of younger people were replaced with appeals for continued economic growth.

Reform environmental groups denounced Reagan attacks on environmental policies and documented the impacts of these attacks (see *A Season of Spoils: The Reagan Administration Attack on the Environment*, by Jonathan Lash, Pantheon Books, NY, 1984).

In the 1984 presidential election, the Sierra Club endorsed Walter Mondale, and Club leaders then saw the Reagan tide sweep across the continent. Major environmental groups changed their own leaders. Leadership became more professionalized. Former business executives and administrators in the Carter administration were brought into environmental groups to bring more centralized management. Mass mailings were used to raise more money. In 1984 the executive directors of ten of the largest organizations began meeting informally to discuss the future of the reform environmental movement. This informal group, called the Gang of Ten, included leaders from the Sierra Club, Audubon, The Wilderness Society, Natural Resources Defense Council, Environmental Policy Institute, National Wildlife Federation, Environmental Defense Fund, Izaak Walton League of America, National Parks and Conservation Association, and Friends of the Earth. In the political context described above, these professional leaders formulated their agenda for action. This informal group was not drawn from volunteer leaders in these organizations and the Gang of Ten was careful to state that their agenda had no official sanction from their organizations. Nevertheless, their *Environmental Agenda* represents the most comprehensive statement of policy by reform environmental groups published in the 1980s.

In the introduction to their *Agenda*, these men state that they ". . . hope that this look at the larger picture will spawn fresh ways of thinking and new ideas to help in the pursuit of environmental quality." They state their belief that ". . . a successful strategy for the future must appeal to the broadest spectrum of the American people." The question, then, seems to be: will it appeal to a broad environmental constituency and will it spawn new ways of thinking?

I preface my remarks about this Agenda with comments about the political context within which it was developed because neither Reagan, nor his use of the budget process, nor the ideology underlying Reagan policies is mentioned in the Agenda.

The Agenda consists of policy recommendations and summary statements concerning eleven topic areas. Policy recommendations are directed primarily to Congress . The authors say that, if enacted, these recommendations would carry the US into the 21st century with a growing economy and a more healthy environment for humans. The tone of the Agenda is managerial. The underlying assumption seems to be that nature is a collection of resources and the primary, if not exclusive, users of these resources are humans. In the "Background" chapter, a passing reference is made to intrinsic value of nature; but the intrinsic value of nature is not a sustained theme in the Agenda and policies are not recommended based on a deep ecological perspective.

The Agenda is premised on three key principles: 1) sustained economic growth is necessary to achieve higher environmental quality; 2) government regulation benefits both economy and environment; and 3) environmental groups must use the same strategies for the rest of the century which were successful during the past two decades.

The eleven topic areas in the Agenda are: nuclear issues, human population growth, energy strategies, water resources, toxics and pollution control, wild living resources, private lands and agriculture, protected land systems, public lands, urban environment, and international responsibilities. I will examine some of these topics to indicate the tone and style of the Agenda.

Under nuclear issues, while recognizing the horror of a "nuclear winter," the authors make the prospects of a nuclear holocaust sound like just another environmental issue. The authors recommend that citizens, working through elected officials, should oppose nuclear arms buildup and that "Congress should call for a mutual and verifiable moratorium . . . on the production, testing, and deployment of nuclear weapons . . ." The tone of these recommendations, as others in this document, suggests that we work in a context of normal politics. The role of citizens is to write letters to elected officials.

Contrast the tone of the Agenda and the recommendations of Jonathon Schell in his book, *The Fate of the Earth*, a book which inspired David Brower to start a crusade to make nuclear arms a top priority of Friends of the Earth and the Sierra Club. Schell writes about the deep anxiety we all have about not only our own death in a nuclear holocaust, but the death of everything on this earth. And he says that ". . . if we accept both nuclear and conventional disarmament, then we are speaking of revolutionizing the politics of the earth. The goals of the political revolution are defined by those of the nuclear revolution. We must lay down our arms, relinquish sovereignty, and found a political system for the peaceful settlement of international disputes."

"The task we face is to find a means of political action that will permit human beings to pursue any end for the rest of time. We are asked to replace the mechanism by which political decisions, whatever they may be, are reached. In sum, the task is nothing less than to reinvent politics: to reinvent the world. However, extinction will not wait for us to reinvent the world. Evolution was slow to produce us, but our extinction will be swift; it will literally be over before we know it. We have to match swiftness with swiftness . . . . For nothing underscores our common humanity as strongly as the peril of extinction does; in fact, on a practical and political plane it establishes that common humanity. The purpose of action, though, is not to replace life with politics. The point is not to turn life into a scene of protest; life is the point."

While the Agenda calls upon Congress and the Executive branch to consider the environmental implications of nuclear warfare, other writers conclude that men in key institutional positions have ideological and emotional blinders which prohibit them from cultivating new ways of thinking. These writers, including many supporters of deep ecology such as Joanna Macy, John Seed and Theodore Roszak, argue that we must face our own emotional despair. Many of these writers argue for direct action, mass protests, civil disobedience, person-to-person diplomacy between citizens of the USSR and western nations, and grassroots activism such as the movement to establish "nuclear free zones" in cities, states, and nations. A call for policy re-evaluation by Congress, critics say, is no substitute for fundamental questioning of the basic assumptions upon which the arms race is predicated. In light of these comments, statements of the Gang of Ten seem either politically naive or a trivial attempt to reduce the "nuclear issue" to another item on the agenda of the environmental movement.

The managerial tone of the Agenda, rather than an appeal for deep cultural changes, is found in most chapters. For example, under the topic of US Population Policy, the Agenda says, "The Administration should establish formal population policies, including goals for the stabilization of population at a level that will permit sustainable management of resources . . . ." Under "Toxics and Pollution" it says, "Citizens should have the opportunity to participate in the decisionmaking process of government and industry in order to ensure continued progress against pollution."

The language of the Agenda is that of Resource Conservation and Development. For example, the chapter on native plants and animals is entitled "Wild Living Resources." Policy directives are vague and there is no assertion that wild plants and animals have inherent "rights." The Agenda recommends that new revenue sources be found for state and federal agencies charged with protecting natural diversity.

The final chapter, "International Responsibilities" lists recommendations concerning multilateral banks (shift development priorities to reforestation, population stabilization, etc.), funding international agencies (the Congress should fulfill its obligations), protection of biological diversity, and protection of Antarctica. The Agenda concludes with an appeal to Congress to endorse the World Conservation Strategy adopted by the United Nations.

In sum, this Agenda avoids the question of cultural and personal transformation. It does not call for a new worldview or a non-anthropocentric environmental ethic. It leaves the impression that the environmental movement is primarily concerned with the well being of humans in wealthy nations, with citizen participation in the movement limited to appeals to elected officials. There is no mention of the possibilities of a new politics in America — a green politics based on feminism, a radical restructuring of the way decisions are made, and deep ecological insights. The Agenda places the environmental movement in the context of normal politics with the environment considered to be an important aspect of decisionmaking. Environmental groups are just interest groups in the political arena. In essence, there is very little ecology in this book.

The reader of the Agenda does not gain a sense that we are possibly at a turning point in history. Fritjof Capra in his book, *The Turning Point: Science, Society and the Rising Culture*, as well as other cultural critics such as Theodore Roszak (*Person/Planet*), David Ehrenfeld (*The Arrogance of Humanism*) and Morris Berman (*The Reenchantment of the World*) suggest that the human-centered worldview is declining.

Capra concludes his book by stating that "the social movements of the 1960s and 1970s represent the rising culture, which is now ready for the passage to the solar age. While the transformation is taking place, the declining culture refuses to change, clinging ever more rigidly to its outdated ideas; nor will the dominant social institutions hand over their leading roles to the new cultural forces. But they will inevitably go on to decline and disintegrate while the rising culture will continue to rise, and eventually will assume its leading role. As the turning point approaches, the realization that evolutionary changes of this magnitude cannot be prevented by short-term political activities provides our strongest hope for the future."

The Gang of Ten's environmental agenda provides little recognition of the rising culture. Instead it fulfills the worst fears of social ecologist Murray Bookchin who wrote the following in his open letter to the environmental movement published in 1980 on the eve of the presidential election:

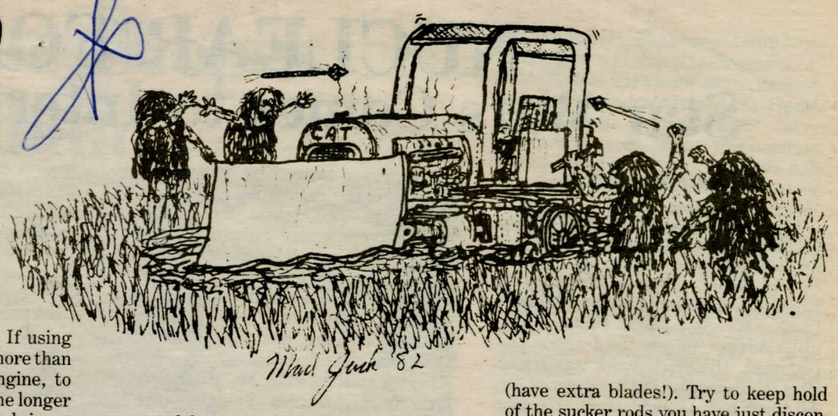
It is necessary, I believe, for everyone in the ecology movement to make a crucial decision; will the eighties retain the visionary concept of an ecological future based on a libertarian (anarchist) commitment to decentralization, alternative technology and a libertarian practice based on affinity groups, direct democracy, and direct action? Or will the decade be marked by a dismal retreat into ideological obscurantism and a "mainstream politics" that acquires "power" and "effectiveness" by following the very "stream" it should be seeking to divert? Will it pursue fictitious "mass constituencies" by imitating the very forms of mass manipulation, mass media, mass culture it is committed to oppose? These two directions cannot be reconciled. Our use of "media," mobilizations, and actions must appeal to mind and spirit, not to conditioned reflexes and shock tactics that leave no room for reason and humanity. In any case, the choice must be made now before the ecology movement becomes institutionalized into a mere appendage of the very system whose structure and methods it professes to oppose. It must be made consciously and decisively — or the century itself, and not only the decade, will be lost to us forever.

The Gang of Ten's environmental agenda explicitly makes the reform environmental movement an appendage of the very system which continues to destroy our homeland. The Agenda never addresses the central question — who are we as humans and how shall we dwell on this Earth? The Agenda ignores our vital need to cultivate ecosophy — earth wisdom. By placing environmentalism in the context of mainstream, "normal" politics, it cannot admit the possibility of a deep, long-range ecology movement.

continued on page 25

DEAR NED LUDD

DEAR NED LUDD is a regular feature in *Earth First!* for discussion of creative means of effective defense against the forces of industrial totalitarianism. Neither the Earth First! movement nor the staff of *Earth First!* necessarily encourage anyone to do any of the things discussed in DEAR NED LUDD.



Ask Ned Ludd

Dear Ned,

Let me tell you about my favorite technique for dealing with big yellow machinery. I know some people favor valve-lapping compound in the crankcase, but I prefer rock polishing grit (available at any rock shop or through ads in lapidary journals). It's cheaper than valve-lapping compound, and buying it is less conspicuous. Medium or fine grit seems to be just right.

I mix the grit in advance with motor oil, and pour the concoction into plastic squeeze-bottles with narrow tips (the kind cheap restaurants use for ketchup or mustard are great). The stuff can then be quietly, cleanly & quickly squirted into the desired vital orifices of the offending machine. If your target has a padlocked cap over the oil-filler hole, simply remove the dipstick and squirt the grit/oil mixture down *that* hole.

Not only are the plastic squeeze-bottles handy, but they are great camouflage — smear a little real ketchup or mustard over the cap for appearances, and stash a couple of bottles in your picnic basket along with the tofu and twinkies.

—the Happy Picnicker

Ned replies:

Your ketchup squeeze-bottle idea for dispensing an oil/abrasive mix is excellent. It provides for quick and clean sabotage, something that's difficult to fully appreciate until you've actually bent over a dozer engine in the dark of night with the slightest tremor in your hand and an ear cocked for the soft footsteps of the night watchman on patrol. Allow me to suggest a few finishing details:

First of all, I wouldn't bother buying rock polishing grit. It's a slight but unnecessary additional risk that could expose you to a tenacious investigator. In a worst case, you might be busted with a small stockpile (for no good reason) and a crime lab analysis might link you to the scene of a hit. Better to use plain sand, available in all regions (try beaches or streambeds). Use a small scrap of window screen to filter out large debris and spout-clogging gravel. Take the additional precaution of avoiding sand near your home or work.

Your oil should be thin enough to flow easily, even when thickened by the added abrasive. A ten or twenty-weight motor oil should do nicely. Carry the bottles inside your coat in cold weather to keep the oil warm.

Before embarking on a mission, check your solution for proper flow from the bottle tip. First shake the bottle by repeatedly inverting it end over end. This is quieter than vigorous shaking and provides better mixing. Pour immediately after shaking. Stop halfway through, shake again, then empty the bottle.

Because the abrasive may adhere to the dipstick tube and be revealed when the dipstick is pulled out in the morning (many equipment operators check their oil levels before beginning work), you might want to "chase" the oil/abrasive solution with a couple of "shots" of WD-40 or a similar spray lubricant.

Always minimize handling of engine parts to avoid telltale smears and smudges on greasy, dusty surfaces.

Your abrasives will also work quite well in hydraulic systems, whose high operating pressures make them very vulnerable to damage by contaminants. On the other hand, don't bother with sand in the fuel tank. It will just settle to the bottom, or at best clog the fuel filter.

As for the amount of grit to dump in an engine, there are many variables. Oil capacity may vary from the five or six quart capacity of a standard-size pickup truck to as much as twenty quarts in a large 'dozer. The basic rule is to get as much into the oil as you can without being detected. If you can, try to get at least a couple of handfuls of sand into the oil of a large engine. If using an oil/sand solution, don't add more than a quart of fluid to any one engine, to prevent tell-tale over-filling. The longer the time abrasives have to work in an engine, the greater the damage will be. If your work is revealed by carelessness, the operator has only to change the oil and filter, and flush the engine's lubricating system. Aggravating to the operator, perhaps, but not very costly in the long run. On the other hand, your undetected handiwork could inflict tens of thousands of dollars worth of damage in a single night.

Lastly, look for the squeeze-bottles with the attached caps. Otherwise you will have to improvise caps to avoid a leaking, oily mess.

—Ned Ludd

Dear Ned,

I have a suggestion for those of us living in desert areas who have problems with dirt bikes. Has anyone ever tried cholla stems or other thorny vegetation? Perhaps they can be partially buried in the sand, or simply laid across the trail. In any case, they ought to work — if they can puncture the soles of my boots, they sure should be able to flatten tires!

—Mark R.
California

Dear Ned Ludd,

Windmills make it possible to spread destruction through overgrazing into many areas that would otherwise be ungrazeable by livestock. Are there simple methods to heavily damage windmills?

—Pissed at Cows

Dear Pissed,

The standard windmill pumps water out of the ground by converting the rotary motion of the wind vanes into an up-and-down motion which moves the "sucker rods" in the well casing, causing water to flow upwards in the casing. Most windmills have a disconnect mechanism which stops the up-and-down motion, making repairs possible involving the rods or casing. Look at the next windmill you see — the mechanism often takes the form of a small windlass connected to a cable which runs to the machinery at the top of the windmill. Cranking this windlass tight disconnects the sucker rods and the up-and-down motion stops. While the windmill itself may continue to spin, the cessation of motion in the rods means water is no longer being pumped from the ground. Of course stopping the pumping is only a nuisance if the grazier has merely to loosen the windlass to get water flowing again. What you need to do is to stop the flow in such a fashion that repairs will be time-consuming and aggravating. Here is one possible method:

Stop the motion of the sucker rods. The rods in very old windmills were made of wooden sections with metal fittings on the ends, threaded together. However, almost all windmills now use metal rods. They may be made from sections of steel pipe threaded together, or (perhaps less commonly) from solid metal rods threaded together.

Now, disassemble the sucker rod at a joint. This should be possible using a couple of pipe wrenches, but if you have the inclination and energy you could saw through the rod with a good hacksaw (have extra blades!). Try to keep hold of the sucker rods you have just disconnected — because what you now want to do is pull several sections up and out of the well casing. In a shallow well, this might be done by one or two people, but in a deep well the cumulative weight of all those sections of sucker rod might be considerable. You might even experiment with a come-along. At any rate, pull a section or two of rod out of the casing, and disassemble at another joint. *Now*, let the remainder of the rods fall back into the well casing. They should now drop down far enough into the well that retrieval will be frustratingly slow.

Most windmills these days are made of steel members bolted together — sort of like a giant erector set. If you have lots of time and energy, you might consider disassembling the whole tower. A couple of people with crescent wrenches and a ratchet set ought to be able to take out a small windmill tower easily — look at what the Bolt Weevils accomplished with giant transmission towers.

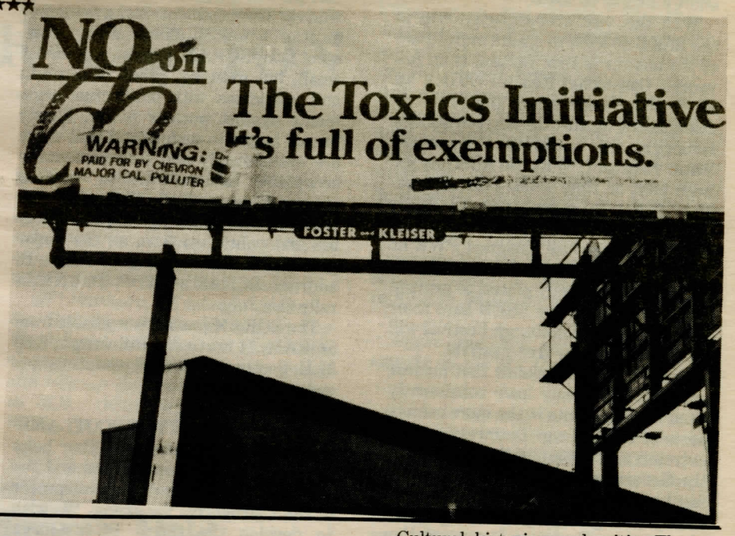
If you have very little time, you might concentrate on the tank which the windmill feeds. Many windmills feed into good-sized metal water tanks. With a cold chisel and a small sledge hammer, such a tank can be converted into an expensive colander.

Whatever you do, remember that security is your most important consideration. **Post a lookout!** Have escape routes planned. The slavering morons who typify our public lands graziers are not the sort of folk you'd like to drop in on you unexpectedly.

—Ned Ludd

Activists Reface Billboards

In the coming elections, Californians will vote for or against a moderately good toxics initiative called Proposition 65. Prop 65 is, of course, opposed by the befoulers of California's waters — Union Carbide, Chevron, etc. Chevron has led the "No on 65" campaign by littering California with anti-65 billboards. Activists unaffiliated with the "Yes on 65" campaign covered a number of the billboards with posters or banners proclaiming: "Warning: Paid for by Chevron. Major Cal. Polluter." The activists then left statements at media offices explaining their actions. The press and public were thrilled by the acts; Chevron wasn't. Chevron denounced it as "a despicable act."



AGENDA (cont)

A deeper political context, a visionary politics, is possible. Jonathon Porritt, director of England Friends of the Earth in his book, *Seeing Green: The Politics of Ecology Explained*, succinctly states the stance we need: "To avoid writing the Earth's obituary we must cease to see the future simply as an extension of the present and we must think as much about what *should be* as about what actually *is*. We must think again of the links between ourselves and the Earth, and of the way the Earth speaks to us through an ideal of life. We must seek ways creatively to disintegrate the economic and industrial constraints that are turning our world and our lives into a wasteland. Above all, we must learn to blend our concern for people with our respect for the Earth through the post-industrial politics of peace, liberation and ecology: the politics of life."

Cultural historian and critic, Theodore Roszak, in his famous book, *Where the Wasteland Ends* (1972), posed a crucial question for the ecology movement: "Ecology stands at a critical crossroads. Is it to become another anthropocentric technique of efficient manipulation, a matter of enlightened self-interest and expert, long-range resource budgeting? Or will it meet the nature mystics on their own terms, and so recognize that we are to embrace nature as if indeed it were a beloved person in whom, as in ourselves, something sacred dwells? The question remains open: which will ecology be, the last of the old sciences or the first of the new?"

The question remains open. Will reform environmentalism embrace the search for ecosophy, for a green politics, for radical personal/cultural transformation; or will it remain a technical, elitist appendage of "normal" politics, conventional worldviews and technical perversity and thus watch Earth and all its beings drift toward unparalleled disaster?

Reviewed by Bill Devall

NUCLEAR FORESTRY:
Star Wars Comes to Interior Department

by Mark F. Spreyer

The helm of the Interior Department has been manned by men with curious job qualifications. The current head is Donald Hodel, formerly Secretary of Energy. Before him, we had William Clark who left a job as National Security Advisor to join the Interior Department. His predecessor was James Watt who needs no further description. All three men brought their expertise to the development of 21st century management practices for US natural resources. A classified Interior Department publication, leaked to this reporter, discusses recent advances in the "star wars" area. What follows are a few excerpts from the classified manual, *Nuclear Forestry: State of the Art.*

Nuclear Newsprint: Nuclear forestry eliminates the need for foul, odor-belching paper mills. Now all it takes is one thermonuclear flash to instantly reduce trees to pulp. Since the nuclear cut will have leveled any topographical barriers such as mountains or valleys, gathering pulp will be as easy as vacuuming grass clippings — using gigantic, nuclear-powered "toros." Afterwards, the land will be leased to ranchers interested in a home on the radioactive range.

The Mt. St. Helens Experiment: Pulping trees is easy. Salvaging usable lumber after an underground detonation has proven more difficult. High costs prohibited foresters from sifting trees out of the rubble around the crater. To learn more, read the second volume of the classified *Journal of Nuclear Forestry* entitled "The Mt. St. Helens Experiment." (For an alternative high-tech solution to this problem, see Laser Beam Silviculture, below.)

The Fruits of a Nuclear Harvest: Orchard owners were quick to find a practical application for the neutron bomb. Not only does it streamline the picking process but there's always the chance of a lucrative mutation. Preliminary nuclear shakedowns have already resulted in three exciting new varieties of fruit: Bong Cherries (hallucinogenic), Texas Radonred Grapefruit (glow-in-the-dark), and Golden-Fried Delicious Apples (cooked on the stem).

Fallout Webworms: Unfortunately, mutations are not always beneficial. Entomologists exploring the margins of a nuclear clearcut discovered a new species of caterpillar so large it webs whole trees together. Since these fallout webworms feed exclusively on radioactive trees, it was anticipated that they would be only an isolated phenomenon. In recent weeks, however, colonies have been found feeding on trees under power lines, around Soviet embassies, and in various locations in New Jersey.

Home on the Radioactive Range: Critics maintain that nuclear forestry, like strip mining, permanently ruins the land. However, recent research suggests that rattlesnake ranching could be a highly profitable use of nucleared land. The meat is delectable, the habitat will be ideal, and overgrazing will cease. So will trespassing.

Laser Beam Silviculture: Unlike nuclear forestry, laser silviculture is an exacting science. One must take care in selecting the proper beam to insure that the forest is properly leveled rather than seared and set afire. An argon beam is recommended for pine plantations, krypton for hardwood stands, and carbon dioxide for dense forests.

Jumping Buck Flash: Biologists discovered that after a laser beam clearcut, the deer were literally brought to their knees. Using Pavlovian methods, researchers managed to train deer to jump when hearing a high-pitched signal. Now, just a millisecond before engaging the lasers, operators sound the signal. The deer jump, the lasers sweep, and the deer land with legs intact. An intense moment of silence follows, and then thousands of trees come crashing down on the deer. Further research is needed in this area.

Only You Can Prevent Forests: Just as Smokey the Bear warned the public about forest fires, so will Remmy the Lemming expound the virtues of nuclear forestry. A series of ad campaigns are planned featuring Remmy and slogans such as, "A Forest that Grows Together, Glows Together," "Nuke the Gypsy Moth," "A Half-life is Better Than No Life," and "Only You Can Prevent Forests."

Mark "Bogman" Spreyer and friends pioneered the field of theoretical nuclear forestry about a decade ago at the University of Michigan forestry school.

Nukes in Scotland

by T. Didbin

On the coldest day of this year, when Scotland's heavy industry was using electricity at a maximum level, Scotland had an excess generating capacity of over 75%. Yet the South of Scotland Electricity Board (SSEB) is set to commission a new nuclear power station at Torness Point in East Lothian, near Edinburgh. If Torness opens as planned, it will be the first nuclear plant commissioned after the Chernobyl disaster and will increase Scotland's energy excess to 104%.

With this vast over-capacity, why is the SSEB so keen to create more? Part of the answer is that Torness is an Advanced Gas-cooled Reactor (AGR), an all British design which the SSEB is championing against the English utility's favourite: the notorious Pressurised Water Reactor (PWR). No AGR has yet been built on time at the planned cost. The SSEB is determined to finish Torness on time, so that if the enquiry into a Westinghouse designed PWR at Sizewell reveals that PWR's failings, they will be uniquely placed to provide an alternative. If the SSEB have their way, this year's Edinburgh Festival will be the last nuclear free Festival.

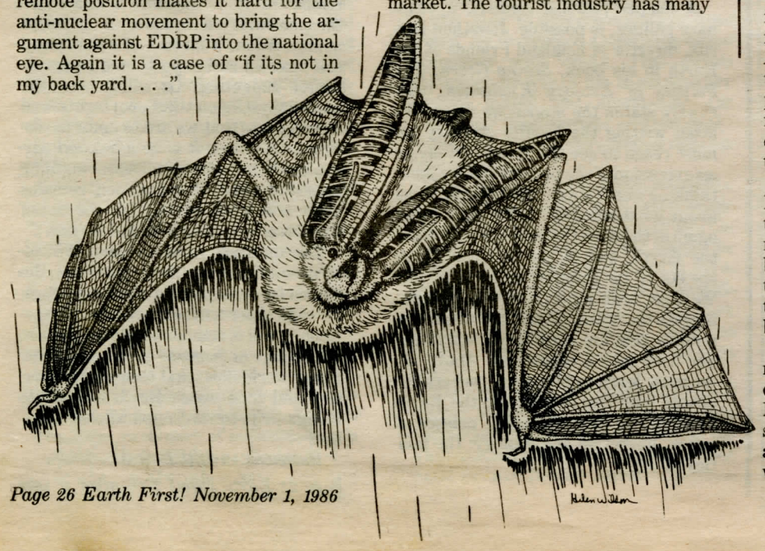
Despite industry claims that nuclear power is safe, they have consistently sited nuclear plants in the more remote parts of Britain: e.g. Dounreay, on the extreme north coast of Scotland. Here the Government sited an experimental fast breeder reactor in 1953; and here a local planning enquiry is being held on plans to site a European Demonstration Reprocessing Plant (EDRP) for fast reactor fuel. Although the use of fast breeders to produce weapons grade plutonium is widely known, Dounreay's remote position makes it hard for the anti-nuclear movement to bring the argument against EDRP into the national eye. Again it is a case of "if its not in my back yard. . . ."

SCRAM started in 1975 in response to the atomic menace of Torness. In the following years, SCRAM-organised protests and direct actions laid the foundations for peace protests in this country, whilst the organisation's main thrust broadened to include resistance to the whole of the nuclear establishment as well as promotion of safe energy options. In the late '70s, when activists shifted their attention from nuclear power to nuclear weapons, SCRAM became the only national organisation working solely against nuclear power. During this period, when CND (Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament) had a monopoly on the emotional anti-nuclear argument, the SCRAM journal provided a small, but growing, group of activists and politicians with intellectual arguments against nuclear power. Slowly people began to understand that there are economically and environmentally acceptable alternatives to nuclear energy. Then in 1986, Chernobyl won the emotional debate, giving union leaders and politicians from all the major parties, bar the Tories, good reason to address SCRAM's STOP TORNESS rally this July.

The SCRAM journal is available from SCRAM, 11 Forth St., Edinburgh, EHl 3LE, Scotland, UK for 9 pounds money order per year.

TOURIST BOYCOTT OF SCOTLAND

Two of these issues need your help: the campaign to stop Torness and the campaign to block further development of the Cairngorms for skiing. We wish to develop the threat of a tourist boycott. The recent drop in visitors to Britain due to the terrorism threat shows how dependent the tourist industry here is on the North American market. The tourist industry has many friends in Government and we hope to exploit this friendship in both campaigns. We ask people to write letters to concerned agencies, such as the nearest British or Scottish Tourist office, the nearest British Embassy/Consulate, or any other British agency you feel appropriate. The letter should state that although you were considering/had booked a holiday in Scotland, you have now abandoned the holiday due to the attitude of the British Government on these environmental issues. Especially on the Torness issue, a letter to either East Lothian District Council or Lothian Regional Council, saying that as Torness is the first nuclear power station threatening to open following the Chernobyl accident you could not subject your family to the potential danger involved. Please send copies of letters to Grant Collie (address in directory and below) or to SCRAM. Addresses: East Lothian District Council, council buildings, Haddington, East Lothian, SCOTLAND; Lothian Regional Council, George IV Bridge, Edinburgh, SCOTLAND. To establish EF! in Scotland, we need money and advice. If you can help with either, please write: EF!, Box 86, 43 Candlemaker Row, Edinburgh, EHl 2QB, SCOTLAND.



US Invades Japan's "Bird Islands"

by Rick Davis

About 180 kilometers south of Tokyo in the Pacific Ocean are the Izu Islands, a group of seven islands belonging to the Municipality of Tokyo. The normally peaceful life of the islanders on one of these, Miyakejima, a small island about 35 km in circumference, has been shattered by the Japanese government's plan to allow the US military to build an airstrip for night landing practice of carrier-based aircraft.

The base which has been used for this purpose up until now, Atsugi in Kanagawa Prefecture, is in a densely populated area; and because of the noise generated by landing practice, cannot be used much longer. For this reason the US military and the Nakasone government (which readily cooperates with all the militarization plans of the Reagan Administration, and which recently announced that it would support Strategic Defense Initiative research) have turned their gaze upon conveniently-located Miyakejima.

As with all development plans in Japan, it is assumed from the beginning that the facility will be built, so meetings to hear opinions of the affected residents are mere formality. The Defense Agency plans to hold a typical "Explanation Meeting" on the island, but the purpose of the meeting, as with all such meetings, will be to tell the 4000 islanders why the airstrip will be built, not to seek their opinions.

The government/LDP (Liberal Democratic Party) proposes to grant the island 70 billion yen in projects to make up for the inconvenience caused by the airstrip, but this idea too is controversial. Residents have rebelled at the idea that their island is being bought.

Not only will the islanders lose a significant part of their land, other residents will lose their habitat too. Miyakejima is home to two protected species of birds, the *Iijimamushikui* and the *Akakokko*. So many species of wild birds (212, according to the Wild Bird Society of Japan) make their home there that it has earned the nickname of "Bird Island." The airstrip would force many birds off the island. The two protected species will be in danger of extinction since they are now found only in the Izu islands.

The Wild Bird Society of Japan has protested against the airstrip, noting that the Society has plans for establishing a wild bird sanctuary on the southern part of the island where the airstrip is to be built. They are trying to raise international public opinion against the airstrip, and plan to appeal to the International Conference for Bird Protection. Also, since 1983 Miyake Village has been developing a plan to make the same area into the main part of an island-wide sanctuary.

The Environment Agency finds itself caught in a dilemma, between national security and nature protection. It has already designated part of Miyakejima as a wildlife protection area, but has avoided committing itself to a clear stand on the issue of airstrip construction. Meanwhile, the government is pushing ahead with the project.

Kato Koichi, head of the Defense Agency, has said, "It is a misunderstanding that just because an airstrip will be built [on Miyakejima], it will become an American military base," but such remarks are to be taken lightly when one considers the overall trend of militarization in Japan's region of the Pacific.

This project should be opposed on the grounds that it will destroy important habitat, and contribute to the further militarization of the Pacific. It is also another example of the Japanese government's high-handed way of developing places against the will of the residents, who consider birds more important than fighter planes. Letters of protest should be addressed to Mike Mansfield, US Ambassador to Japan, US Embassy, Tokyo.

ZU ZAZ'S CLOSE SHAVE
A Short Story

by Tom Stoddard

Six young people stand near the exit of the five star Chez Dominique restaurant atop Nob Hill. It is 10:47 PM. Jason looks around him and asks, "Ready?"

His companions each reply, "Ready."

"It's a go then, no mistakes," Jason barks softly.

The gold braided doorman is holding the rear door of a blue Mercedes limo open when Jack's strong arm whirls him around and slams him against the rear sidewindow. He orders him to "freeze." Eric jumps onto the leather rear seat of the limo and yells for the chauffeur to "freeze!" The chauffeur panics, hits the accelerator, and the limo lurches and screeches down California Street toward Chinatown. The doorman and Jason fall to the gutter, Jason still holding a round hard object in his gut. Four other well-trained young radicals swiftly grab the exiting couple. Mark pushes the Homberg and topcoated man with silver fox gray hair against the brass Chez Dominique plaque, tells him to "freeze," and presses a hard object under Norbert Eubert III's heart. Norbert is as rigid as a statue. Seeing that Norbert is cooperating, Jill, Mark's partner, joins two other women who have already thrown the fur-coated Zu Zaz Morgan, star of stage, screen, TV and many a wealthy man's bed, to the fog-damp sidewalk. Zu Zaz had let out a half-scream before the sure hand of Dawn wrapped two-inch-wide adhesive tape over her mouth. Mary held Zu Zaz's arms. The entire episode was capsulated by the *Chronicle-Democrat* headline the next morning: STAR BRUTALLY RAVAGED BY THUGS. But the story began 15 months ago.

It began on a November evening at the Hotel Sacre-Rex, Vienna, Austria. The Sacre-Rex is one of Europe's finest hotels with a hand hewn stone facade properly stained with a century of rain and wear. It has gaslite crystal light fixtures, deep purple carpets, fringed canopy and enough polished brass to make a scrap dealer's eyes pop with greed. Inside, the world famous restaurant Del Vencana serves the rich and famous. It is one of few restaurants in the world to use real sterling and bone china. It was just outside the Maitre d' barricaded door of the Del Vencana that Zu Zaz first saw the Snow Leopard fur coat. The wearer was Mika, a thirtyish woman of excessive beauty, a thin Anita Ekberg with Scandanavian blond hair. She wore a dark red Oscar de la Renta cocktail dress. Mika had an open manner and a laughing face. Men immediately wanted to see if they could raise her to contorted ecstasy. Her escort and lover was Ruger Flot, the libertine heir to the Flot steel fortune. He was rumored to be pissing the fortune away on women, drugs and darker pleasures.

Zu Zaz was stricken by the beauty of the coat and moved to block Ruger and Mika's way. Normally they would have pirouetted around an overdressed American woman and sped on, but Ruger, like everyone else, recognized Zu Zaz and they stopped. Zu Zaz spoke, "Excuse me, dear, I must ask you a question."

"Yaas, vot can I doo for you?" Mika too had recognized Zu Zaz.

"That coat, it's exquisite, I must know about it."

Vot would you like to know?" Mika asked, eyeing Zu Zaz to make sure it was her.

"What kind is it; where did you get it; how rare is it?"

Fascinated by Zu Zaz and wanting to get into the conversation, Ruger answered, "Ees der rareest fur, ees der Snow Leopard, tree fuller pelts. Ees impossible to got anymore. Species endanger." He studied Zu Zaz's famous green eyes as he spoke. He noticed she was shorter, plumper and a bit older than he expected.

Zu Zaz loved the word 'impossible.' It created a sense of danger and challenge that made her blood rush. She had done more "impossible" things than any ten other famous women including marrying ten famous men. Her husband for the evening, Phillipe du Bourne, saw the evening being bushwhacked and gallantly suggested they all have a drink in the lounge. There was no need to tell the Maitre d' they would be late for dinner. Restaurants always held Zu Zaz's table whether she arrived or not. Phillipe was a former cabinet minister of France from a wealthy Chateau country family. He was a thin man with shallow cheek hollows, thin hair and an arrogant air that had cost him the ministership two years earlier.

In the lounge the group plopped on velvet settees and introduced themselves in the elegantly dim light. Their conversation centered on the Snow Leopard and its prized fur, with tidbits about the conversers, particularly Zu Zaz. Zu Zaz learned that the beast came from the Tibetan Plateau bordering Pakistan, China, Russia and India, where only about two hundred survived. They were classified as Endangered and the governments of Russia, Pakistan and India protected the survivors. Even the Chinese were beginning to preserve the Snow Leopard, though Chinese healers prized its ground bones to treat ailments of the aged. The pelts were extremely difficult to obtain because of the protected status and the danger of hunting the beasts in the jagged mountains of Central Asia in mid-winter when the pelts nearly double their thickness.

They were told that Achille de Flambé, the famed furrier on the island of Rhodes, had connections to obtain the pelts. He had designed the special collar made from the distinctive tails of the Snow Leopard. Mika told how she and Ruger had flown to Rhodes to plead with de Flambé to obtain the pelts and make the coat. He had said that it would take too long and was very dangerous. He had also said the rare fur trade was far more difficult and dangerous than it had been in his father's time. His great-grandfather had started the business in 1892.

Achille wished to hell all the rare fur animals were extinct and the clamor for them by the rich would stop. Rare furs like Tiger, Jaguar, Cheetah, Ocelot and Snow Leopard could get him in trouble someday. They were the trial of his life. He preferred baby seal, otter, Wolf, Bobcat and other common species from which profit margins were assured and obtaining the pelts was only modestly illegal. Occasionally he reflected that they too might become endangered someday.

The price for Snow Leopard was five million drachmas (about $200,000 US). Money had talked again.

Zu Zaz had lived on the high plateau, rising to ever higher peaks to taste great jewels of prominent husbands. She expected the best. While Mika and Ruger told her about the coat she reached over and stroked it. It was gossamer silk and stunningly beautiful.

They told Zu Zaz that after paying for the coat, they had waited two years for delivery. They had flown back to Rhodes to take delivery from de Flambe' in person. He had done his well-rehearsed act, hovering, blowing, fluffing, tugging, smiling, and squealing as Mika turned admiring herself in the mirror. They had all been pleased: Mika and Ruger to possess the unpossessable, and de Flambe' to be done with it. He had sworn he would never take another Snow Leopard commission. He had also sold them a full length Arctic Wolf at a better profit percentage. He hoped they would return.

Their chat in the lounge lasted long enough for Zu Zaz to get all the pertinent information. Then she and Phillipe left for dinner, promising to send Mika and Ruger news of their efforts to purchase the coat. Phillipe was pleased their detour had not kept them from the dinner plate too long. During dinner he and Zu Zaz chit-chatted about the Snow Leopard coat she now coveted and her Paris opening next week. While they talked, Zu Zaz kept an eye on her Cheetah coat draped over a chair. It now looked drab and ordinary.

The next day Zu Zaz called de Flambe'. Naturally he was impressed with her name but refused to discuss over the phone a Snow Leopard coat. Swayed by her imploring and her famous name he agreed to discuss the matter in person. He insisted, "When you be in Rhodes we discuss him, no more talk on telephone."

Zu Zaz and Phillipe could spare two days before her Paris opening. They needed only to cancel several minor engagements. Phillipe chartered a small jet. They considered their five star hotel on Rhodes a bore. It was for middle class tourists and Scandinavian sun seekers. They tried the casino but the action was slow. The negotiations for the coat went smoothly. Achille was a slender man with buttered down hair and thin mustache, overdressed to impress the middle class. He was awed with Zu Zaz and eager to please — at a profit, of course. He would accommodate them for seven and half million drachmas ($300,000 US). That included the special cuffs Zu Zaz wanted. Phillipe forked over the money, which was one of the costs of hanging out with Zu Zaz.

Fifteen months later the coat was delivered to Zu Zaz's suite at the Stafford-Cliff Hotel in San Francisco. Achille sent his most trusted assistant. He cleared customs without having to use his prepared lies.

Zu Zaz was thrilled. She pranced about the suite displaying the fur to herself and Norbert Eubert III, saying "Isn't it priceless, don't you just adore it? Won't everyone be green with envy?" Norbert was only of a month's duration. Phillipe had been discarded at the end of the European tour. Phillipe and Zu Zaz each had been glad to be rid of the other. He rid himself of the brassy upstartedness of achievers, and she of the stuffy shallowness of blue blood inheritors. She told Norbert the story of the coat for the third time and continued to effuse over its beauty and rarity. Norbert nodded agreement, smiled and cooed. Zu Zaz wanted the coat to have a special premiere. She had been invited as the celebrity guest to the San Francisco Opera's gala fund raiser eight days hence — a gathering of San Francisco's old and important families, and their many exotic fur coats. She had her press agent alert the media to the special coat she would wear to the opera gala. They gave a few details of its rarity and beauty without mentioning the illegally killed Snow Leopards or how it was smuggled into the country.

The glittering night arrived and amid limos, jewels, and flashbulbs Zu Zaz sparkled. The coat was widely admired by the oogling press and the upper crust. Several newpapers devoted a whole paragraph to the coat, covering its rarity, beauty and price (properly inflated for publicity purposes). One East Bay newspaper did have the audacity to snidely remark, "the world needs more Snow Leopards and fewer vain overdressed women wearing their skins." Sour grapes. On the whole, the event went exceedingly well. However, unknown to Zu Zaz the event was noted by a few crazed and dedicated wildlife conservationists. They called themselves the Ecoavengers. They were outraged at the act and Zu Zaz's audacity to trumpet it to the world. They began to collect information on her and stalk her movements. A file was assembled in two days. Jason, their leader, impersonated a reporter and was granted a telephone interview, during which he obtained facts not previously made public. The Ecoavengers had incriminating evidence. They developed a plan to skin the coat from her and remove all her body hair as a symbolic punishment for destroying the Snow Leopards.

The chauffeur finally stopped the damned limo near Kearny Street by ramming into the rear of a parked Chevy. As they lurched to a stop the chauffeur turned to Eric and said, "Now what?"

Eric replied, "Give me the keys, then we sit here a few minutes before I disappear." The chauffeur handed over the keys; Eric threw them down the street.

Meanwhile, in front of Chez Dominique, Dawn and Mary held Zu Zaz on the sidewalk. They began pulling the Snow Leopard coat off the thrashing darling. Jill readied the sheep shears. Three pedestrians stopped to watch in amazement but were too frightened to interfere. Norbert and the doorman were still covered by Mark and Jason. After the coat was removed, the three women stripped Zu Zaz. Jason urged fast action from his awkward position in the gutter with the doorman. Jill shaved her head and pubic arch, while the other two called Zu Zaz "a vain bitch," "a killer of beautiful and endangered animals," "a greedy whore," "a velvet ass," and told her: "Your skin should be ripped off your carcass like the leopards' were. If you ever wear another animal skin we'll be back to cut your hands off." Zu Zaz shook violently with fear and cold. When the shave was finished Dawn threw a quart of blood colored glop on her. Jill took pictures of Zu Zaz from all angles with a strobe camera.

While the women worked on Zu Zaz, Mark barked at Norbert, "Tell me where the bitch got that coat or I'll blow your rotten brains out!" It was all bluff, the only weapon the group had was the sheep shears.

"I don't know for certain," Norbert stuttered, "but on Rhodes, Rhodes in the Mediterranean."

"What place?" Mark demanded pushing his round stick harder into Norbert's ribs.

"I can't, just Rhodes — the big place there with all the exotic stuff. That's all she told me. She was married to Phillipe then. He bought it, that's all I know. I swear!"

Jill finished her photos and yelled, "Let's scoot!" Everyone dropped their captives and fled to the waiting van and Jason drove them away. They changed vans eight blocks further on. Eric had to flee on foot, but they all made it.

A statement was telephoned to major radio and TV outlets that night. The next day they sent the same statement to the print media along with photos of the bald, bloody and nude Zu Zaz. In several, her face was distorted so she looked a monster. The statement:

Zu Zaz Morgan was attacked and shaved tonight to avenge her heinous and illegal acts against Endangered animal species. Three rare and Endangered Snow Leopards were murdered for the sole purpose of inflating her ego and catering to her vanity. Specifically she violated US Customs by illegally importing her Snow Leopard coat. She also violated the Endangered Species laws of the US and several other nations with the killing and transporting of Snow Leopards, and the manufacture of her Snow Leopard coat. She is a moral abomination to all humanity. All of us should be dedicated to preserving the rare and Endangered plants and animals of Earth. Her punishment was merciful compared with her crime.

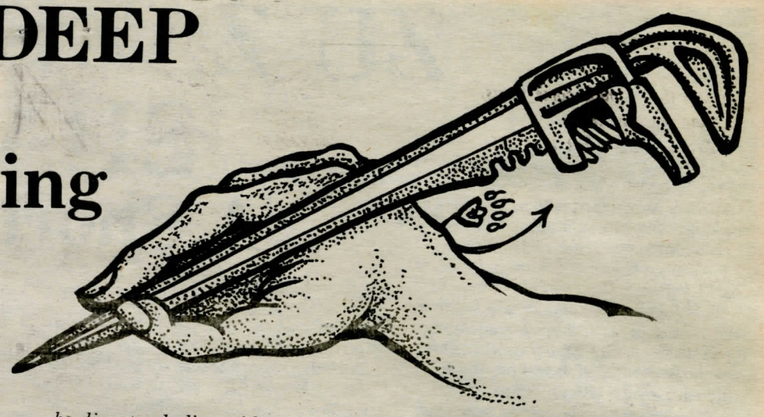
THE ECOAVENGERS

Zu Zaz's civil crimes were half-heartedly prosecuted. She paid a $200 fine and the import duty to the US Customs Service. All other agencies domestic and foreign decided they did not have enough evidence to proceed.

The coat was reverently buried in the California Coast Range with the hope it would recycle into another wild and beautiful creature.

Tom has been one of our more original writers. A former government executive and then bank vice president, he now writes regularly, and his books include ***Jazz on the Barbary Coast.***

THE POETICS OF DEEP ECOLOGY
Part Four: A Growing Body of Work



by Lone Wolf Circles © 1986

There is a swelling growth beneath the weight of humankind's concrete consciousness, soft yet insistent like rainforest flora, rooted in the Source, breaking through the asphalt to breathe the sun. A sensitivity honed by the desperation of our generation. Though scattered, there's an invisible cellular connection between each expression, and taken together they represent the expanding, living body of Deep Ecology Poetics. Their genetic destiny is to advance awareness with no concern for success or failure. To blossom, and to act, only because it is right to do so.

Their world is never done, like in Stephen Lewandowski's retelling of the Iroquois story "A Woman and Her Dog" (in *Poacher*, White Pine Press):

A woman and her dog are sitting in the moon.
Beside a bright fire, she embroiders
with porcupine quills
Over the fire hangs a pot
in which a stew boils
Once in a while
the pot boils over and
the woman gets up to stir it.
When she does
the dog unravels all her work.
This is the way it goes,
embroidering and unraveling.
Should she ever finish her work
that would be the end of the world.

Stories of magic poached from the indigenous culture, describing ways of seeing through the heart. Walter Franklin (in *Little Water Company*, White Pine Press) invokes the magic state, each poem a song of place, the voice of an Eastern watershed. From "Water Song":

O Heron, Turtle, Beaver, sing the magic songs.
Sing loudly of the ripple and falls, of those who sang your lives in
word, who lived your heart in song.
Sing of children under water, of
Blue Darter's wife, she who fed them, washed their clothes
Come story us again with the seldom heard.
Come sing the magic songs.

Each an exorcism of the personality of the land. El Mundo Magico. Becoming the dismembered bones washed in the creek, a part of the puzzle to be read by Brujos and Brujas, like tea leaves or yarrow stalks. From "Rock Creek Skeleton":

I daub face and body with
pallid flesh of water, beat
the stone drum of thoughts
to remember the old ways, to forget.
I call out the diseases, feed them
arms and legs to gain their wisdoms
as my own. Detached, a head watches,
names and dreams the bones away.

We must be the alternative alchemy, the antitoxin to what EF!er Dennis Fritzinger calls "New Man" (from *Tame Wilderness*, Gorp Publications):

nature created man, but man created new man:
where new man laughs, nature weeps:
that gentlest of sisters. new man builds dams,
enslaves the wilderness to do his bidding.
meanwhile, under his own skin, his organs become synthetic
his heart replaced with plastic; even his blood becomes new blood:
the blood of money, his brain the new computer.
he is the self-made man, in every sense; born in his hive,
he lives and dies without having tasted Life
or understanding one iota of the world he has destroyed.

Named for the ever-horny "antler'd dancer" painted on the innermost walls of Les Trois Freres cave in the Pyrenees, Antler acts as sorcerer, laying bare the factories, celebrating the wilderness through joyous use of all the senses. He serves the tribe as a "Contrary," riding into camp backwards, offending those who need offending, teaching through contrast, challenging conventional ways of being. A curious mirror for the people, and for the critters. From his newly released collection, *Last Words* (Ballantine #32541):

(the deer) licking their lips while shitting
and looking over at you
with their deep shy eyes,
. . . isn't it proper etiquette you should look at them
curious playful friendly
and lick your lips in return?

Celebrating the rise of wildness, the untamed wilderness inside us all, as in the excellent "Rebirth of My Mouth":

Now I return to the forgotten way.
I throw away my fork and spoon.
My knife? I will use my mouth
for killing now.
My teeth are sharp enough.
My jaws are strong enough
to tear off chunks of living flesh.
I can crush skulls
with a single bite,
Rip throats, tear guts in a second,
Eat the eyes while they still can see
and the ears while they can still hear.
I began by eating with my fingers.
Then it was time for my hands
to be tied behind my back,
To bend over the plate and eat like that.
Then it was time to let myself loose
four-legged in the woods for a summer,
To relearn how to stalk
or lie in wait for my prey,
To remember at last
the best place to bite
to slaughter my food.
Now I am ready to kiss.
Now I am ready to speak
of joy and truth with my mouth.

The meaning of the Poetics of Deep Ecology is reaching not just into the wilderness "out there," but into those remaining wilds within. Deep inside yourself, where no external light illuminates the secrets in your bowels. From Antler's "The Darkness Within":

And you think you know yourself!
Why the only way to even begin
is to vivisectionize yourself.
So what if it hurts.
You have a responsibility to the inquiry
of human identity's self-discovery
even if it kills you.
What else is Poetry for?"

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ARMED with VISIONS

When the animals come to us,
asking for our help,
will we know what they are
saying?

When the plants speak to us
in their delicate, beautiful
language,
will we be able to answer
them?

When the planet herself
sings to us in our dreams,
will we be able to wake
ourselves, and act?

Gary Lawless
from his chapbook Yellow Dog, 1986

MAYBE HERB AIN'T A NERD AFTER ALL

So this article says
the herds of hamburger-to-be
holsteins are devouring
the Amazon rainforest.
Looks like Herb
is the smart one
around here!
Looks like Herb
isn't a nerd after all.
Maybe Herb even smokes
a little herb!
Maybe he gets high on pot
instead of developing a pot
from eating all those cows!
Maybe Herb gets high
on Hinduism
and lets all those
sacred cows be.
Too bad the Amazon forest
isn't a sacred cow
– too holy to devour –
then at least
people wouldn't make cows
of themselves eating up
the trees every time
they order a burger.

Craig Kowalkowski
Milwaukee

STANDING FIRM

All day I have lain
in the arms
of a beautiful woman,
and all night
felt her soft breath
on my skin.

This is the great lap.

Cupped hands best express it.
But let me at least try and
explain it.

Some go to Hawaii.
Others to Miami Beach.
Many fly to Mexico...
or to the Caribbean.
Me?
I stay at home
with the barn owl.

Shep the dog
scratches for fleas
on the back porch.

Up...grey sky
and geese overhead,
forty or fifty on the wing,
headed north.

Old cow
dead
by the side of the road...
The great lap.

Mark Gaffney
Oakland

THE CUTTING ZONE

Swauk Meadow

the roadscar glares white in
the summer heat
it sprawls, slumbering
snakelike against the
mountainside
as the wheels of progress stir
flinty road dust
forest voices hush at the
warning plume of passage
silence is dispelled by rasping
whine
as machine voices sentient
violence
sawteeth blur a funeral keen
halts only at the fibrous
ripping fall
on the road below...senses are
assaulted
the very air is saturated with
green
pinesweet astringency dispells
the dust
as hundreds of lifeyears crash
the Earth trembles at Her loss

sparkle plenty
washington

progress

therejustdoesntseem
tobeenoughspaceanymore
canthreathecantthinkcantsleep
allbunchedupincivilized
accoutrementslikecrushedtomatoes
cannedinsubwaysealedtight
throughdankdustytunnelsto
sunparchedcavernsofbangingcrowds
strugglingdesperately to break out
tothenearestfastfoodstation
foryetanotherfix

Joel Hammer
Brooklyn

TO THE ANCIENT LAKE DOLORES WHO LIVES ON IN THE HEART OF THE MISSION

Dolores
I come to wake you
from your heavy sleep.

Your asphalt dress does not become you.

Dolores
wake, wake, wake your wild hair
of tule, tule, tule, tule.

Lady Underground.

Skeleton of Water.

Bones of the Flow.

Kush
Cloud House

Your body still, still
with so much life.

I bring you up to breathe
where dream of you goes on.

Lady, where the sun did swim.

Lady, who fed the loon,
fed the salmon,
fed the grizzly bear.

Dolores gathering the antelope.

Dolores holding the Moon.

The laborers came and buried you alive.
You ran under the earth.

Dolores now exhausted by cars.

You run under the macadam.

Dolores under Valencia,
you continue to make your life.

Under the sign of the Busy Bee
Market you collect
yourself.

You collect yourself
in the heart
of the Mission.

GARLIC SANDWICHES

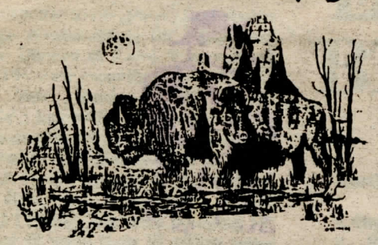
from Talking in Your Sleep, 1986

When you live quite alone
Not only can you make
sandwiches of raw
garlic
But you can turn the radio
off and on to suit
yourself.

Like most other great
pleasures
This has its dangers.

Kate Barnes
Maine

ORIGINAL DRAWINGS by Jim STILES



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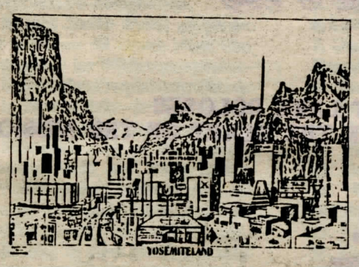

FROM THE JOURNEY HOME
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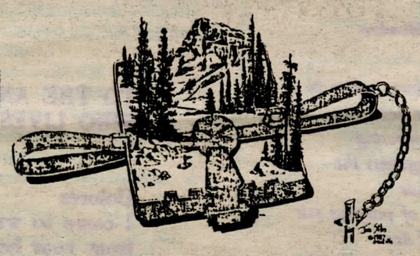

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"the day the deer took over"	35¢
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"The Road to California"	20¢
"Let 'em eat cheese" (the Reagans)	35¢
"Reagan & his vision for America"	35¢
"4 More years"	35¢
"How to trap a trapper"	35¢
THE JOURNEY HOME chap 2,5,11,18,23	20¢ EA

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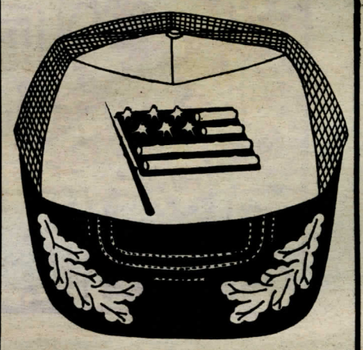

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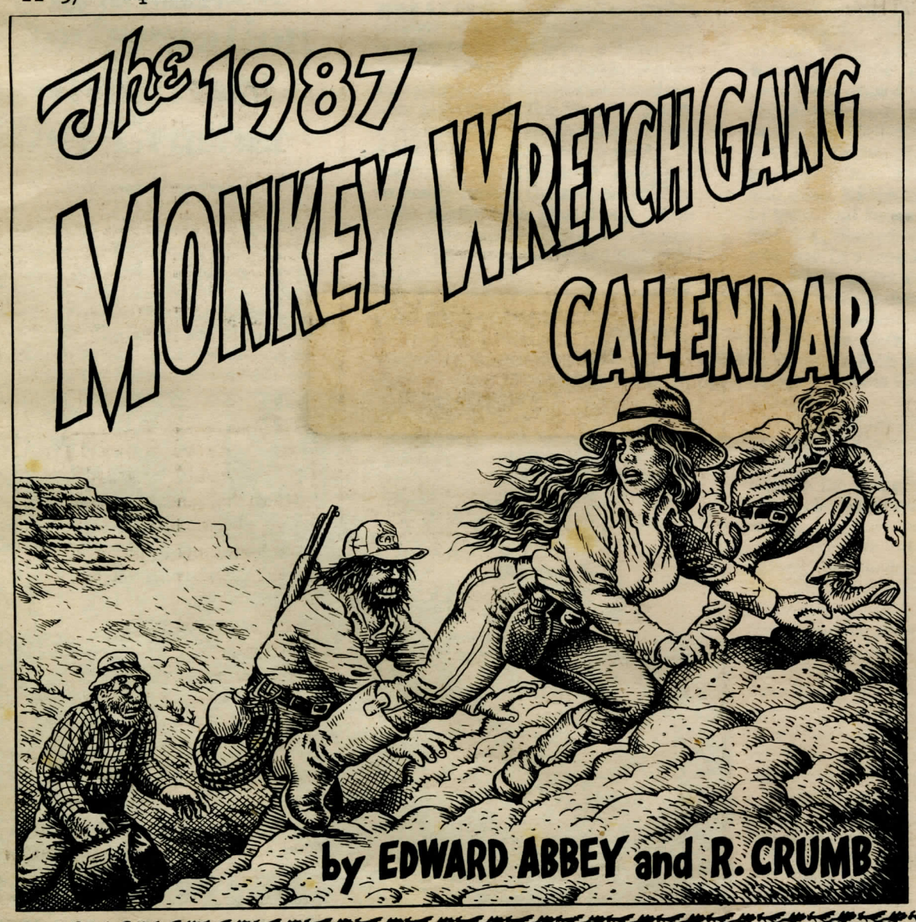

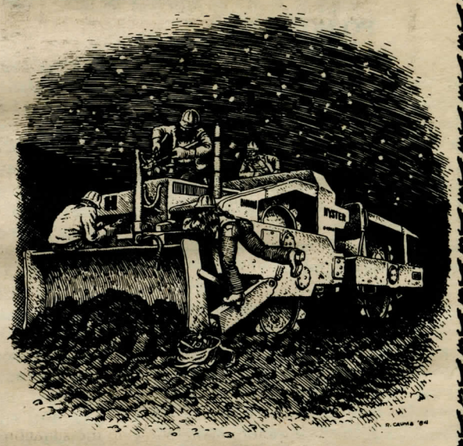

"They worked happily. Hard hats clinked and clanked against the steel. Lines and rods snapped apart with the rich *spang!* and solid *clunk!* of metal severed under tension. Doc lit another stogie. Smith wiped a drop of oil from his eyelid."

"Hi," said Hayduke, grinning. "I'm a hippie." He swung for the stomach; the cowboy staggered back against the wall. Hayduke faced the five other cowboys at the table. They were rising too, all smiles."

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